BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MEETING
INFORMATION PACKET

OCTOBER 28, 2015
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*No Minutes Generated – No Meeting Held In September.*
AGENDA

I. Adoption of Agenda Doc. #15-60 Tab #1

II. Public Comments

III. Approval of Summary Minutes from Regular Meeting of August 26, 2015* Doc. #15-51 Tab #2
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   Approval of Summary Minutes from Special Called Meeting of October 13, 2015* Doc. #15-61
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IV. Chairman’s Report

V. Library Bond Program – Phase II – Al Collins

VI. Director’s Reports – Revising Layout Doc. #15-65 Tab #3
   B. Monthly Usage Summary Doc. #15-63
   C. Customer Service Report Doc. #15-64
   D. Library Closure Report

VII. Old Business
   A. Budget Process, Schedule and Assumptions for 2016 – Discussion
   B. Future Planning for FCLS
   C. HB595 Interpretation as it directs our actions – Discussion
   D. Election of Officers*
   E. BOT Bylaws* Doc. #15-45 Tab #4
   F. BOT Constitution* Doc. #15-46

VIII. New Business
   A. 2016 FCLS Holiday/Closing Calendar* Doc. #15-57
   B. 2016 Library Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule* – Discussion Doc. #15-58

IX. Adjournment

X. Executive Session
   A. Director Search – Discussion

*Action is anticipated on this item.
ATLANTA-FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING  August 26, 2015 – 10:00 AM CENTRAL LIBRARY – 6th FLOOR

Members Present:
Bailey, Phyllis D.
Burke, Jamilica
Joyner, D. Chip
Kaplan, Paul
Moody, Stephanie – Chairman
Taylor, Josh
Thomas, John R.

Also In Attendance  Claxton, Zenobia – Assistant to Director’s Office
Holloman, Gayle H. – Interim Director, Libraries Arts & Culture
Massey, Mark – Clerk to the Commission

Visitors Present  Macklin, Harriet J. – Friends of the Central Library
McPherson, Dr. Greg – Friends of the Central Library
Watts, Adalyn – Friends of the Central Library

A. Preliminary Business:
   1. Swearing-In Ceremony - All Board members sworn in
   2. Adoption of Agenda
   3. Motion made and affirmed to move report from the search firm to Executive session

B. Public Comments:
   1. DR. GREG MCPHERSON expressed support for Central Library as vital for his research
   2. MS. ADALYN WATTS expressed support for Central Library
   3. MS. H.J. MACKLIN expressed concern about
      a. Georgia Hill closing - a leased facility with 4,800 square feet
      b. The lack of representation on the Board for two branches in Atlanta in DeKalb County. Ms. Bailey from BOT shared the same concern.

C. Approval of Minutes – No motion made as most members are new, and were not present for the meeting

D. Chairman’s Report; Ms. Moody stated that
   1. Waters & Company report will be in Executive Session.
   2. Formal minutes that are now verbatim: the initial opinion from the attorney is that we are not required by law to do that, although in any official meeting, we would need a secretary to take minutes and to report any vote.

E. Director’s Reports
   1. Documents in books not discussed in interest of time:
      a. Monthly Financial Reports
      b. Monthly Usage Summaries
      c. Library Closure Report
2. **IT**
   
a. Wi-Fi is still a problem and users are not able to have easy access due to CIPA, which are the rules that control children and the Internet usage. In the past, the Library had its own IT department and now the County IT is responsible, and to date has not been able to fix the problem

b. Old computers - a lot of them are failing

3. **Grounds** - a major issue, lack of upkeep

4. **Maintenance** –
   
a. Central Library here, we've got hundreds of bulbs out, just in this one location. The Buckhead Library, hundreds of bulbs out.

b. HVAC problems – had to close several libraries this month

c. New Roof for central library - $800,000 set aside, but nothing done pending a decision on what will be done with Central.

d. We do maintain a list of what needs to be done. It's just getting it done that is the problem.

e. Public works and general services have 108 locations right now throughout the County, different buildings, that they are about to do an assessment. The 23 libraries that are to be renovated are among those, and they're going to make assessments as to just what are the needs, what are the problems.

5. **Teen programming** - not able to hire teen librarians as early until we got our new hire ability, which was around February or March.

6. **Circulation Report** - numbers are trending up; A key is having $ for materials

7. **Staffing** - Need to fill 30 full time positions and 40 part time positions

8. **Bookmobile** not working – looking at options

9. **Customer Comments** – E Campus – very positive; New buildings – very positive

F. **Foundation Update**
   
1. Summer Reading Program - no summary yet, but good support from foundation ($26,000). Last year we reached 44,000 school age children


3. Planning for the major fundraising event every year.

4. Foundation is also working on a strategic plan to use in approaching foundations.

5. The Foundation also is funding, $70,000 for a library strategic plan, but we've deliberately delayed that until we get our new Director on board.

G. **Library Bond Program Update and Feasibility Study For Downtown Library Option**
   
1. We are in preliminary discussions with County regarding 23 branches and what to do with Central.

2. $23mm for 23 branches to bring them up to date, but not for major items like HVAC and roofs

3. $85mm for Central, but conditioned on raising $50mm from other public funds.
4. The Facility Master Plan may need to be changed.
5. $23mm can be bonded separately – and we need to get that done now, but it is likely that $23mm will not be enough to do all that is needed.
6. Need a feasibility study for Central. Extended discussion, but in end we need a document that trustees can use to discuss this need with commissioners.
   • Action: Josh Taylor agreed to draft a document for the BOT.

H. Bylaws and Constitution Committee
1. Update: Josh Taylor discussed timing and process for new bylaws.
   • Action: Committee will consist of those who expressed interest: Taylor, Kaplan, Bailey and Moody
   • Action: Committee will decide when ready to present draft to BOT

2. Chair stated that we can only vote on action items in minutes.
   • Action: Need to discuss this at next meeting [as this is not explicit in bylaws]

I. Role of Board of Trustees:
Several points made regarding BOT mission and scope of authority:
1. Focus on
   a. Strategy, management, and policies
   b. Fundraising

2. External Organizations to help
   a. The State Librarian (Georgia Public Library Service) can provide a Board training program
      • Action: Chair to follow up to suggest dates where we may do this off site
   b. American Library Association convention: Some Board members and staff used to attend, but $ for this cut from budget. Now anyone must pay their own way.
   c. Library Trustees Association

J. Review of Key Measures - information provided, but discussion deferred to next meeting

K. Nominations of Board of Trustees Officers: John Thomas Chair of Nominating Committee presented two candidates:
   1. Chair: Stephanie Moody, who represents a lot of experience and continuity
   2. Vice-Chair: Paul Kaplan, who has been very active in the library system in Illinois

L. Motion to Adjourn accepted

M. Board then met in Executive Session to discuss the Search for a new Library director with Waters and Company, the search firm
Members Present
Bailey, Phyllis D.
Burke, Jamilica
Joyner, D. Chip
Kaplan, Paul
Moody, Stephanie – Chairman
Taylor, Josh
Thomas, John R.

Members Absent
None

Also In Attendance
Claxton, Zenobia – Assistant to Director’s Office
Holloman, Gayle H. – Interim Director, Libraries Arts & Culture
Massey, Mark – Clerk to the Commission

Visitors Present
Macklin, Harriet J. – Friends of the Central Library
McPherson, Dr. Greg – Friends of the Central Library
Watts, Adalyn – Friends of the Central Library

Chairman Stephanie Moody called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m. at the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System.
Transcript Legend

— — Break in speech continuity

(sic) Exactly as said

(phonetic) Exact spelling unknown

Quoted material is typed as spoken.

** Inaudible
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(BEGAN AT 10:14 AM)

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Well, welcome, everyone. All right. I believe we are all in attendance now. So has everybody signed their sheets?

All right. Mr. Massey, how would you like us to proceed?

MR. MARK MASSEY: It’s your pleasure. I'll be ready to ask you to all stand and raise your right hand, and repeat after me.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Okay. I didn't know if you wanted us to gather together or stand where we are.

MR. MARK MASSEY: She is interested in taking a picture of you all down there, so that probably would be good.

Would you like to all come down and line up, because you've got a couple of photographers here today to witness this new day for the Library Board of Trustees of Fulton County.

So if each of you would raise your right hand and repeat after me.

(Whereupon, all members complied and stated under oath as follows:)

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

MR. MARK MASSEY:

I, state your name, do solemnly affirm, that I will well and truly discharge the duties as a member of the
Library Board of Trustees in all matters which require my
official action, to the best of my knowledge and skill, and
I will so act, as in my judgment, will be most conducive to
the welfare and best interests of the entire County.

I do further solemnly affirm, that I am not the holder
of any unaccounted for money due this state, and that I am
otherwise qualified to hold said office, according to the
Constitution of the United States.

You are all official. Congratulations.

15-44 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY:

As the past Chairman, I'm going to go ahead and call
the meeting to order and proceed through this, the minutes,
so I will call to order the Fulton County Board Public
Library System Board of Trustees Meeting of August 26, 2015,
and the first item on the agenda is the Adoption of the
Agenda.

May I have a motion to approve?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: So moved.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: May I have a second?

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Second.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Bearing in mind that we've
already deviated from the agenda, I'm going to point out
that the swearing-in ceremony took place, initially, and
that I'd like to move the -- or maybe it has been moved.

There was a report from the search firm, Item No. 5, we
will move down under New Business as Item C, if that is all
right with everyone.

Hearing no objection, all those in favor?

(Whereupon, all said "Aye.")

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Any opposed? The motion carries.

The next item on the agenda is the Approval of the
Minutes, but before we begin that, we have three guests with
us today, and it's usually our custom to allow them to
address the Board before we act on any other business, so
the amount of time usually to address the Board is two
minutes, and so without any further discussion, I'd like to
call Dr. Greg McPherson, who is from the Friends of the
Central Atlanta Library.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

DR. GREG MCPHERSON: Good morning, everybody. Thanks for
having us here out of interest, and counting this as an
opportunity for a learning moment with some of the
activities and plans and direction of the Central Library.

I am a researcher over at Emory University School of
Medicine with the Global Health Humanitarian Summit, and I
use the facility here as part of a mainstay for a good bit
of my research, so I have a vested interest in the direction
and life of this particular facility, as well as the plans
for the Central Library, as a whole. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: All right. Thank you, and now, Adalyn Watts. She's also with the Central Library Friends.

MS. ADALYN WATTS: I'm a member of FOCAL, Friends of the Central Library, and I'm here just to be in support of the Central Library, and let you know that we care about it. Also, I understand this is going to be a long meeting, so I'm going to make this very short, and just let you know that we're here to support you, and here to support the Central Library. Thank you.

MS. H.J. MACKLIN: Good morning, everyone. I'm a member of FOCAL. I'm the President of the Auburn Avenue Research Library Friends, and I'm a resident, property owner, Atlanta resident of Grant Park, and today, I'm here for Grant Park.

Some of you don't know, but this is our local newspaper, neighborhood, and I'm going to leave this copy so you'll have something on record, but there was an article in here for September that talks about the Georgia Hill Library closing, and there were some concerns, and I'm going to quote a couple of things here: "Many residents in the Grant Park, Summer Hill, People's Town neighborhoods, served by Georgia Hill's library, were not aware of the Georgia Hill closing, because they moved to the community after the decisions were made. Many noted the challenges that would come with finding new transportation. The new branch slated
for Pryor Road is an estimated 49 minutes' walk from the
current branch, as well as the average trip from my home."
This is a quote from somebody who had signed.
"My home would be 40 minutes, requiring either a
lengthy walk or two different buses."
I leave this to you, so you can physically see it
yourselves, and I really appreciate it. The one question
that I do have, hopefully, you'll be able to answer was the
class of representation for East Atlanta Library, and it's
not called "Kirkwood."

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Kirkwood.

MS. H.J. MACKLIN: It is, okay, called "Kirkwood," which is
actually in DeKalb, but is still part of Atlanta, so the
fair representation is the concern. All right. Thank you
very much. I'll leave this here.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Are there any questions for any
of our guest speakers?

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: What is the concern about Kirkwood? I
mean, you said there is a concern with representation.

MS. H.J. MACKLIN: Well, in the past, there has been
representation on the Board of those two communities, and
now, with the change from the General Assembly, it doesn't
seem like it's addressed that, so it's a matter of
clarification or change. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: If I may address that, though, we
are all charged with representing the entire library system, and there's never been any excess representation toward one system or another, so I believe it's East Atlanta and Kirkwood, even though they're both in DeKalb County, will continue to be -- have the full support of this Board, and I also might point out that East Atlanta is a close library to Georgia Hill, in that residents who attend Georgia Hill can take just one bus to get to East Atlanta, which is a 10,000 square-foot library, much newer, has many more facilities, and Georgia Hill --

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Is a leased facility.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Is -- well, I knew that. The square footage is very small, though. Isn't it 2800, something like that?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: I don't have it with me, but low. I think it's less than 3000.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Georgia Hill is very small. It's a leased facility, and it's one of our oldest branches. The decision to close some of these branches was based on the fact that we're not reducing the number of branches. We still have 34 branches, but we're representing the communities, actually, better with the larger facilities.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: It's 4800 square feet.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: 4800 square feet.

MRS. PHYLLIS D. BAILEY: Madame Chair, I think perhaps the
young lady, Ms. Macklin ...

**MS. H.J. MACKLIN:** Yes.

**MRS. PHYLLIS D. BAILEY:** You're concerned with having a representative on the Board who can vote for that particular area.

**MS. H.J. MACKLIN:** Right. Correct.

**MRS. PHYLLIS D. BAILEY:** That was my impression, and according to what the new rule is, the person from Atlanta, who includes DeKalb County, will not be a voting representative.

**MS. H.J. MACKLIN:** Correct.

**CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY:** The person appointed by the Mayor may reside anywhere in --

**MRS. PHYLLIS D. BAILEY:** Residence isn't the question. The question is whether or not that particular person will have a vote on this Board, and according to the rules that I read, perhaps I misinterpreted, the person that the Mayor appoints no longer has a vote on this Board.

**CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY:** That's true.

**MRS. PHYLLIS D. BAILEY:** That is your concern.

**MS. H.J. MACKLIN:** Correct.

**CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY:** That's according to the legislation as it was drafted.

**MRS. PHYLLIS D. BAILEY:** Which seems rather unfair.

**CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY:** Which supercedes all previous
MRS. PHYLLIS D. BAILEY: I understand what you're saying, though, about the legislation, but I understand her concern, also, that as a major group, that they have no actual voice on this Board.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: John ...

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Stephanie -- Phyllis, I just take exception, because I've been on this Board for --

MRS. PHYLLIS D. BAILEY: I realize that.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: -- a lot of -- many years, and I don't think the Board has ever voted on anything with regard to where a library is located in terms of the City of Atlanta. I know those two libraries, Kirkwood and East Atlanta are in DeKalb County, but because they're in the City of Atlanta, they are part of our system, but I can't -- not only have we never voted according to districts or locations, I can't imagine this library ever doing that, but with that said, I understand what you're saying, so ...

MRS. PHYLLIS D. BAILEY: I appreciate the fact that you've been on the Board for quite some time, and several of the other persons here, also, and I appreciate your advice and concern --

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Yeah.

MRS. PHYLLIS D. BAILEY: -- but I also understand her concern --
MR. JOHN THOMAS: Yes.

MRS. PHYLLIS D. BAILEY: -- that the voting representative for her district no longer has --

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Yeah.

MRS. PHYLLIS D. BAILEY: -- an actual vote on this Board, and I feel that is a legitimate concern.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Are there any other comments regarding this?

15-39 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

All right. We will move ahead. As I noted in my memo to you, I would not expect you to approve the minutes from a meeting you did not attend, but having read through them, are there any areas that you would like further information about or more discussion?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: I do have several things, but to tell you to spend the time for some of the questions I have, I think it's something I can do, not at the meeting. I can be talking to Gayle, and get some of the information. It's nothing really specific.

There's the Bookmobile. There's certain things that were -- different things going on, so I won't address them at this point, I think, and Wi-Fi, to me, is a very big subject. It's something I'd like to address sometime at the meeting today, a little bit about it.
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Okay, and because -- I'll just move right into the Chairman's Report, then, which is to say that a representative from Waters & Company is going to be in attendance at the end of this meeting, so we are trying to compress, not only two months' worth of financial reports, but also some more pressing concerns in our Old Business and New Business into a shorter time frame, so I appreciate you waiting until later, that we can address that if it doesn't take the entire input from the Board, so that's what we have today is Waters & Company, and that will also be in Executive Session. Did our attorney ...

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: He's not here. He says he'll be a little late, Denval Stewart.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Another question that has been brought up in regards to a court reporter being in attendance to take formal minutes that are verbatim, and the initial opinion from the attorney is that we are not required by law to do that, although, any official meeting, we would need a secretary to take minutes and to report any vote, how it turned out.

I don't think we have time to discuss this now. I just wanted you to be aware of it, and we can discuss that later and decide how we want to handle that, and if the attorney comes and has a more informed opinion, I suppose he can --
MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Well, part of his opinion was that it does keep you particularly covered with regard to possible litigation in the future, so it is a good thing to have. It's not required by law, and he may want to expound upon it more when he arrives, but he did state that it's advisable, basically, that's what he was saying.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: So there we have it for that, so we're skipping the Director's search firm, so I was hoping to kind of batch the June reports and the July reports together, but I do want Gayle to have the opportunity to point out any exceptional items that she'd like you to be aware of.

Naturally, most of them are covered in your Board book, and I want you to be able to ask any questions you have regarding any of the reports, but instead of going through each one, point by point, I thought we'd have Gayle start with her report for June, and then we'll just jump right through those, quickly.

15-43 and 15-50 DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

15-40 and 15-47 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Basically, I wanted to know if you all have any questions about the financial reports that you have before you. You have the June and July financial reports. You also have some information that Mr. Taylor asked for that has been printed and put in your books, so you may want
to, of course, talk about that at a future meeting. I'm not sure how Mr. Taylor wants to approach it.

We had some questions about comparisons of us to other systems, and so that's very interesting right there. Did you notice anything in particular in the two reports with regard to the financials that you may have a question about, or the Monthly Usage Summary?

**15-41 and 15-48 MONTHLY USAGE SUMMARIES**

I do want to point out about our wireless sessions. We do have a continued problem, as Mr. Kaplan was pointing out. I think he said he had some questions, which we can certainly try and get answers for. We are meeting tomorrow. Tomorrow is Friday, yes -- no, we're meeting Friday. Tomorrow is Thursday. We're meeting about our wireless problem, and were down minus 47 percent year-to-date in June, and now we're at a minus 30 percent.

Our Wi-Fi is still a consideration, a major consideration of a problem with regard to -- I'm told by IT that it has to do with CIPA, which are the rules that control children and the Internet usage; however, when our Wi-Fi was being run by Georgia Public Library Service, GPLS, we didn't seem to have the problems, but now they've gotten out of the business for all of the libraries in this state, and so now since we've had it, the question has been what do you filter and what do you not filter, so that has caused a
lot of problems for our IT staff.

They seem to think that they've got to have a real tight grip on everything, so what we're finding is that a lot of the sites that people have been used to going to, and that have not posed any kind of negative problems for us or for anyone, are now not able to be accessed. They have the certification problems, and so every time we get a patron who makes us aware of something that they've been going to, sites they've gone to over and over, and now for some reason, they won't let them enter it, we send those sites, a list of those sites to IT, and they have been very good about finding a way to open them all back up and make them available, but for some reason, their certificates are just hung up, and they will not authenticate, so we are trying to work on it to find -- we don't ever know when it's going to happen. We don't know what site it's going to hit until it happens, but as I said, everyone that I've known about, they've been able to go back and get the person into the site or onto the site, and so we're meeting tomorrow about that and all kinds of other IT concerns, so that we can try and figure out how do we go from here or where do we go from here.

I've actually contacted the head of IT at GPLS to get some input from her as to what we might be able to do, so we are checking into it, and we are having a formal meeting
with the head of the department of IT, as well as staff members there and library staff on the administrative team, so I hope I'll have more to tell you, instead of the same song, and that we can get it straightened out by the time you meet next meeting, because it is a major problem.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: The complaints I'm hearing is even the new libraries that have opened, people are very frustrated because they can't even get onto the Wi-Fi. It can be done, but what happens, it takes a librarian's time to come to what that person's doing, to go over to the patron, and they're able to junk different certifications and finally get onto it, so now that takes that person's time, but it is frustrating for the patrons that come in and see it, but we have an IT department that works directly for us, or is it a separate company?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: It's the County's IT department. We don't have our own with the library anymore.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: We do not have our own.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: No. We used to at one time, but we do not now.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: When we had our own department, were things better at that time when we had an IT department that worked directly for us, not through the County?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: They were better. They weren't the greatest, but they were a lot better. We didn't have all
the technology that we have now, either, though, at that
time, but it was a lot better, because they were here every
day. They had a place on the 7th floor, and they were
always here, and so it made a huge difference.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: The amount of money we pay for IT services
for the year is considerable, but that's paid to the County.
I just have to understand how the system works. It's paid
to the County.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Right. Yes.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: So the County is the one that maintains
it.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Yes.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: But that's new.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: That's new, okay, just trying to find out
how the --

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: I think that's part of the shared
services --

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: It is.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: -- the County provides, and the cost of
that does not show up on your budget, does it?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: No, it does not.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: It's in the County budget.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: It's in the County's budget.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: This is a budget that does not reflect the
total cost of operating the libraries.
MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Right, no, not in that regard.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Is part of the problem blocking because of the appropriateness of the site they're going to, because they're worried about children's access to inappropriate sites?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: You would think that would be the case, but what's happening is these are sites that are traditionally used. I was at the Milton Library when I started hearing about this with the new libraries, and I was really surprised. I knew about the old ones, and I just tried to go on Google, and it would not go through. It wouldn't authenticate, so I mean, just simple sites, Yahoo, Google, I tried all those. Then I said, well, let me just try Saks Fifth Avenue, couldn't even get in on that one, so it's just doing all kinds of crazy things, and these are not sites that would have anything to do with a problem for children. They're not considered any kind of inappropriate situation, and every time we've made IT aware of it, they have been able to find a way to authenticate it, but it will not do it if you bring in your own device, or if you're in using our computers, a lot of times, you just cannot get on different sites that people have traditionally gone to, so it's the darndest thing, and we don't understand it, but we are really trying to work through it.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Is there anything the Board can
do to assist?

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Not at this point, that I can think of. It is strictly an IT situation that we've got to resolve, and hopefully, we will be able to talk it through tomorrow and figure out someway to do so. I think it's a matter of going through. There may be a list of CIPA rules that we need to go through and see if we need to loosen them up in some way, if they've got something blocked on our side that we don't know, they're using something called "Bluetooth," and I don't fully understand it. It's not your Bluetooth that we think in terms of the cars and stuff, I don't think, but we've just got to figure it out, but I'll keep you informed.

**CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY:** Okay.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Do you have any other important issues that you're dealing with? In the interest of time, it would be very interesting to hear about what the top two or three issues that you're working on for the library.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Well, the next number one issue is our grounds, and the upkeep of our buildings.

**CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY:** Yes.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** We get calls daily, I mean, numerous calls daily about how some buildings -- people think it looks like they are abandoned, because the grass hasn't been cut, or this or that hasn't been done. We've got one
wonderful Friends group that wants to spend almost $14,000 upkeeping the grounds at one of our locations. The fear about that, though, is that once they would do it if we say it's okay, is that then what's going to happen is they're going to -- we're not going to be able to maintain it. They'll spend all that money, and we still can't maintain it, so that's a real concern.

The grounds are a huge issue. Also, things like just getting light bulbs in our buildings. If you look through the Central Library here, we've got hundreds of bulbs out, just in this one location. The Buckhead Library, hundreds of bulbs out.

We don't have a lift to get things moving around here. We do have one that was stationed, or has been stationed at the Wolf Creek Library. The problem is getting it moved around, someone who can go pick it up and move it, and then use it, and then of course, we don't have money to buy lightbulbs, so we're trying to get lightbulbs bought, so that we can change all these bulbs out, so that is a real concern. I mean, just if we could make the places brighter, would make a huge difference.

Some of our locations, we're not even able to get to the bottom shelves, because you've got to go there with a flashlight, because you can't see it. It's so dark when you go down the aisles, so those are some of the major concerns.
right there, and of course, getting our staffing levels back
to where we want them to be, so those are basically the top
three.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Reading the reports about maintenance,
something I was involved with in Illinois, in part, it's
really terrible. I mean, I plan on going to every library
in this system. For me to understand what's going on in
these different libraries, I have to go in every branch and
find out. If we're going to represent everybody, I have to
see what they all look like, but the maintenance is
terrible.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Right.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: There are some areas where they can't even
read a book. There's not enough lights. The lights are
burned out, and the maintenance is still by County; correct,
that's County that --

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: It's the County.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Yeah. That's another shared service.
Shared service is a problem.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: It's a large problem. But let me ask
this: Shared services, that money that is spent on shared
services comes from -- we pay them, or are they part of
their budget? How does that work?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Part of --

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: In other words, so if we have maintenance,
and they come out and do the work, where is that money --
who pays?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Public works and general services have
a budget for the whole County --

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: That's part of what I see in here.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Right, for the whole County, and there
are 108 locations right now throughout the County, different
buildings, that they are about to do an assessment. It will
take them, probably, till the end of the year, though, and
the 23 libraries that are to be renovated are among those,
and they're going to make assessments as to just what are
the needs, what are the problems. Of course, we're going to
need to know all that going into Phase II, which I think
you've got here on the agenda to discuss, but that's part of
what they're going to be doing is assessing.

Right now, we're finding that the biggest problem
within the maintenance issues, other than grounds, happen to
be the different systems, particularly HVAC. The winter is
about to come. Now, we'll start having heating issues.

Right now, all summer, we've had AC issues, so it's a major
concern, and we've had to close one of our libraries --
well, not -- we had to close several libraries during the
month, which you'll see on the report, or I'll tell you
about it in the report, and that was all due to HVAC
problems.
One of them is a chiller that we have to purchase for $104,000 for the Northeast/Spruill Oaks Library. Well, we've been fortunate that we'll be able to get a reimbursement through a grants program for a 50/50 match with the Georgia Public Library Service, and so they're going to give us $52,000 of that back, but the fact is we've got a lot of failing systems, so those are major issues for us.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: And that's even in leased -- in leased buildings, do we maintain that equipment, and if it breaks --

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: No, not in the leased ones, we don't, but we do have problems with some of those, but they are responsible.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yes. I read some of the reports.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Right.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Okay. I could keep talking about it. I'm going to leave that alone.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: We have asked in the past that the library Branch Manager provide lists. I think Gayle is pretty much on top of this. We do maintain a list of what needs to be done. It's just getting it done that is the problem.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Yeah.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: And I know from my experience
with some of the branches that some of them feel like they
make these reports, and it's not Gayle, but nothing happens,
so they get frustrated.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** One thing they did tell us to stop
doing, and they've gone to what's called "City Works"
now -- it's where they go in, and they enter all of the work
requests, and it used to be where we put in one, and then
after five days if no one said anything, we'd put in another
one. Well, they're saying what happened at this stage now
with City Works is that it would start the process all over
again, so they're saying put in one request one time, and
then they are supposed to go by the order in which they were
received, and so it seems in some ways that's making it a
little bit better, but it still comes down to it takes a lot
of money to take care of these problems, because they're all
happening at once, and even though you talk about preventive
maintenance, you can't prevent everything, because you don't
know it's going to happen, and everything can't be looked at
through a preventative maintenance process, because certain
parts of an HVAC system will mess up, and you don't know
it's getting ready to do it until it does it, and so that's
a real problem for us.

**MR. JOHN THOMAS:** Paul and Josh, you have really hit on
something that has been an issue with all of us, and me,
personally, for some years, to the extent that I have even
invited a past Board of Commissioners to certain libraries
to say look at this mess, look at this maintenance of the
system, and nothing has ever gotten done, so it's really
appalling. It's not just absolutely disappointing to some
of our newer -- any library, but certainly a new library --

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Well, I think each of us is appointed by a
Commissioner, and it's our job to make sure that the
Commissioners act, so we're going to have some lobbying to
do --

MR. JOHN THOMAS: You talk to Lee. Talk to Bob, John -- I
mean, Paul --

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Oh, I will.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Things have got to change, because it's
appalling the way some of our buildings appear.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Central Library was remodeled, supposedly,
about 15 years ago, in reading everybody's notes, but
remodeling, and putting paint on the walls, and putting a
couple of things doesn't take care of the inner workings of
a building, the HVAC, the roof. There's got to be leaks.
There's piping. All of the things that really concern me
hasn't been touched at all.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: There was some money set aside for it,
about $800,000 about four years ago for a roof at this
building, but then the question has always been what's going
to happen with Central, so until some decisions are made --
MR. JOHN THOMAS: They keep postponing it.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: -- do you spend $800,000 on it or not?
It's getting to a point where somebody's going to have to spend $800,000, probably, or more, because it's really gotten bad, so we just don't know. We just don't know what's going to happen with it, but Central is a big part of all of this.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Which is a whole --

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: It's a whole issue.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: -- issue.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: -- another issue.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: We can take up an entire meeting --

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: But I read every note in there, and I'm reading what's going on, so --

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: And we may need to take up an entire meeting --

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yes.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: -- to come up with our decision about what should be done about Central, because the clock really is ticking much faster now.

I do want to bring to your attention that we have a nice increase in new cardholders and renewing cardholders, which I think is part of the benefit of opening the new branches, but we're still down in our teen program, in...
particular, and surprisingly, we're down in our computer classes. Now, maybe that is a direct reflection of the Wi-Fi problem.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** It is a reflection of the Wi-Fi problem. It is also a reflection of old computers. Right now, there has not been a -- the County does not have a contract for us to purchase PCs, and so that's another thing we're meeting about in our IT meeting, and they have gone to or will be going to the BOC with the fact that they need to purchase more.

They did get the okay to purchase for the new libraries, so we do have that, but with the ones that are failing, and a lot of them have failed, particularly here at the Central Library where we have a lot of youths daily, 45 computers on the 4th floor alone, that is a major concern.

In our computer lab where we teach classes has 12 computers of which almost every one of them has failed over the last two months, so we were able to replace eight of them last week by getting computers from some of the libraries that closed, so we were able to bring those, and IT came and set them up, so we are working hard to try and address them as we can, but we know we're going to have to buy some new ones, and so we've got to wait until the contract is in place for us to be able to do that, because IT actually purchases them for us, so that is part of the
problem with regard to that.

With teen programming, it's just an ongoing system with our teens. We were not able to hire teen librarians as early as we were wanting to when we got our new hire ability earlier, which was around February or March. We do now have nine new children's librarians, youth services librarians. We should see that figure start to change, but teens work. They do a lot of other things. They're involved in so many things, so the problem becomes how to attract them, and that's an ongoing problem with any youth services librarian, and for any library system, so we are working to address the situation with teens.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Do you have the summary from the Summer Reading Program?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: I do not have a summary yet. We are working on that, but we had an excellent Summer Reading Program.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: We did.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: It was wonderful. The funding through the Goddard Foundation, through the library foundation, was awesome, $26,000 or a little over. It made for a wonderful program. We had over 150 people in attendance at the finale program, which was held two Saturdays ago here at 2:00 p.m. It was awesome.

We worked with V-103, who again, came through. This is
the second year, awarded one for each library, a Kindle Fire for the top reader for each location, and the top prize was drawn from those winners to receive an Apple MacBook Pro. The theme was Every Hero Has a Story, and so a lot of kids are into animation, and all that now, and the Mac allows you to do these animations, and it's animation work, so we thought it would be a good idea.

They financed it to the tune of about $5400, and the children were very happy, their families and everything. It was a wonderful program, and we had a storyteller who was fantastic, and it was just a great program, so I think you will hear more about those statistics as we pull them together, but it just ended -- it goes from June 1 to August 1 of every year, so it just ended.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Also, I'd like to bring to your attention the Circulation Report, in that those were numbers we're going to want to keep an eye on, just simply because I'm hoping they're going to start trending upward now that the funding is back in place, and we have our new branches.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Yeah, and apparently, they appear to be trending upward already. I can recall those numbers being double digits last year. I guess it does help to have monies for materials.

MS. GAYLE HOLLoman: It does help. It really does help to have money for materials.
MR. JOHN THOMAS: I swear, I recall 19 percent, being down 19 percent, so I'm happy to see that minus two. It's still minus, but --

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: It's coming up.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: It's coming up. That's really good news.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Well, and I can attest that the openings were very well attended, regardless of where the branch was. The public is thrilled with their new branches, and I'm going to surmise that the complaints about the Alpharetta Library were in relationship to the old building, not the new building.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yes. It's the old building. That's right. If it's a new building, I'm going over to find out what's going on.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: There was a lot to complain about in the old buildings.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: There was a complaint, specifically, about Alpharetta, and it was such that I --

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: No, that was definitely the old building. Yeah, that was the old building.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: How long has the Auburn Research Library been closed, and people having to use downstairs for that?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: It's been closed now since, I believe, it was November of last year.

MS. H.J. MACKLIN: July.
MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: July of last year? I'm sorry, thank you. It's planned to reopen in April of next year. We think that's a good date for it. Right now, that's what we're shooting for. We don't have a firm date, but somewhere in the second quarter of next year is when we're thinking it should reopen. It's going along very well, as far as the work itself, lots of planning, lots of things, and I think you're going to be very impressed. It's beautiful, a beautiful design, and I think it's going to be greatly used.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Gayle, also as important is the E-Campus is to some of our outreach into the community. Has that problem been addressed in the July complaints? It says they could not access their classes.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Right. That's another problem. Our databases could not be accessed, not just E-Campus, but all of them. We were having problems with being able to access our databases. It all comes down to the Wi-Fi.

She would go out -- the Coordinator for E-Campus would go out and do outreach, and have a presentation and would be ready, but couldn't connect back through, so that was a problem, or if she was on-site at the new libraries, each time she would do a presentation there, we had problems at Milton and at Alpharetta, just trying to get in when she was inside the building, because of the Wi-Fi issues, so it's
affecting everything in some form or fashion.

**CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY:** And these classes are
exceptional, and --

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** Oh, there are some great comments about
it.

**CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY:** Right, a lot of what we
do.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** They're wonderful classes.

**CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY:** Are there any other questions for
Gayle regarding any of the Financial Reports or other
reports that she's provided for us for the last two months?

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** I have a question, which is where do we
stand in terms of staffing now, versus where you would like
to be? In other words, are we close, or are we still --

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** We're getting closer. We just started
interviews last week, and we're starting to fill at all
levels almost, particularly the part-time positions and
other paraprofessional positions, so that's where we are
right now. We have a total of about 30 full-time positions
we need to fill, and we want to fill about 40 part-time, and
that's going to really help us a lot.

As I told you, I think, last month or I mentioned in
some meeting, that we've hired a lot of part-timers, but
then we lost a lot of them, so we're kind of doubling back
now, and we're going to look again at where we are with that
whole proposition, but people, sometimes they leave for various reasons, but a lot of times it's because they're working nights and weekends, so we've got to address that issue.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: How long have you had this policy of part-timers filling nights and weekends, as opposed to sharing it among full-time and part-time?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Well, it is shared. They were extra in order to get our hours back, get us open back again. At one point, we reduced our hours, and so that was to help us get back in line with that, but it's not just part-timers working. It’s part- and full-time staff working on nights and weekends, but we had a reduction, because we had to lay all the people off as we did in 2014, so that was a problem, and we're trying to resolve those issues.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Okay.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: But we should be in good stead, probably, in the next month we'll see a huge difference in what that hiring process will give us.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Okay.

LIBRARY CLOSURE REPORT

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Also, I wanted to point out that we were closed in July for six and a half hours all total, and those things were due to, as I said, HVAC problems. For the most part, we closed some of the branches to reopen new
ones, that would be the Bowen-Bankhead Library and the Perry Homes Library.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: That was in July.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: In July, and the old Alpharetta Library closed, so those were the closings. Any other questions about that?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: The Bookmobile, that's not working, and I know the Foundation was talking about the --

MR. JOHN THOMAS: We still are.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: The Foundation is still talking about replacing the Bookmobile. I know there's a thing called "BioBus," which is a smaller version of the Bookmobile. I've been reading some of the notes about that, and it's another alternative to look at.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Right. It's two different things there. The Bookmobile was down. I'm told that they're working through the problem. They think they're going to get it back up within the next few weeks, so that's what we're hoping, to get it back out on the road.

They did identify some of the problems, I'm told. It's an ongoing thing. The BioBus, though, is Georgia State University's science department has the bus, and we are able, from time to time, to get them to bring the bus to various locations, so that the children can experience it, but it's not ours.
CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: It's not a Bookmobile.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: I know it's not a Bookmobile.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: It was just something that we might be able to pattern a Bookmobile after, so it wouldn't be quite as large, but we might be able to have more than one to go around and service a Bookmobile.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: So when the Foundation comes up with the money, we'll have a couple --

MR. JOHN THOMAS: That's right.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: -- because the Chairman is right next to me --

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: That would be one of the --

MR. JOHN THOMAS: We're going to have the Bookmobile of the future, Paul.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Toward that point, some of these smaller branches that are scheduled to close, we're hopeful that we'll have a Bookmobile in place to go back to those communities to make sure they have better access to materials that's more convenient for their needs, so yes, we definitely want a Bookmobile, and that's a good segue, if there are no more questions, into the Foundation Report or update.

Do we have any other questions to the Director?

All right, John, if you would ...
FOUNDATION UPDATE

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Yeah. Well, Gayle has already mentioned, I had three items, the very successful Summer Reading Program. That is a function, financial support of the Foundation. Many people think that summer reading is part of the Fulton County budget. That's not true. If it were not for the Foundation, there would be no summer reading, so this year, we contributed all of the money, $26,000, and our Development Director, Cara Darling, has given me a little advanced heads up, just like Gayle did, that it was a very successful reading program. I don't know what the number of children that went through it. Do you happen to know that number, yet, Gayle?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: We're compiling that information.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Last year, we touched 44,000 school-age children in Fulton County, and research has proven there's a direct relationship between children going to summer reading programs and those not, in terms of maintaining reading skills learned when they leave school in May and June. Those who attend a summer reading program maintain, if not even elevate, their reading skills in summer reading programs. Those who do not, actually lose some, so we're happy to be part of that.

The second item is the Bookmobile. We are very much involved with Georgia Tech right now in designing what we're
affectionately referring to as the "Bookmobile of the Future," and we hope to fund this thing through the new crowdsourcing idea through the Internet, and there'll be more coming on that. We are really in the infancy of this, but Georgia Tech has a program where they help design things like this. It's very technology driven, and we hope to tap into this, to their genius, and actually, right now, working out some of the details, because in the past, they have always wanted to maintain the intellectual property that comes out of these things, and we don't want any part of that, because if something is developed on our behalf, and we don't want to go back and pay them anything for what they did.

Now, that's not to say that we don't want to contribute something to maybe a Georgia Tech foundation for what they did for us, but our lawyer on the Board is in discussions with their professor, but we think we're going to get that all worked out.

The third thing is we're beginning to -- we're planning for the major fundraising event every year, and that's our annual -- it's a letter-writing campaign, but the committee on the fundraising is trying to jazz it up a little bit to entice more, not only more contributors, but those who have been contributing to contribute more, so that's also in the process, so those are the three things, Madam Chair.
CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: All right.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Any questions? We're in some exciting times in the Foundation.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: The Foundation would be thrilled if you would like to contribute anything.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Yeah. We'll be touching base.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Just so you know, we'll leave no stone unturned.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: We don't. We do not. Stephanie's on the Board, on the Foundation Board.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: The Foundation is also working on a strategic plan.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Oh, yeah. I didn't even mention that. We feel that it's difficult, if not almost impossible, to go to some of the heavy hitters in the city, like UPS and Home Depot, requesting, for example, $1 million to help the Summer Reading Program without having a plan. Before, you'd go to these people and say we have this wish list. They're not going to listen to you. They want to know what the plan is, so we're in the process of dotting the i's and crossing the t's on our Foundation strategic plan.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Well, hopefully, it will tie into the library's strategic plan, which the Board should be involved in developing.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Just getting ready to mention, Josh, nice...
segue. The Foundation also is funding, has provided $70,000 for a library strategic plan, but we've deliberately delayed that until we get our new Director on board, not if, but when we get our new -- we have a -- you could be thinking "If," if you've been around here a while like Stephanie and I have -- we've been dallying with this thing. We want the Director to have a hand in the library strategic plan, and they will coalesce, Josh, those two, but we're funding that $70,000.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: And we're well aware that the library needs a strategic plan that can be updated on an annual basis, so we're always ahead of the curve, but not to diminish the importance of our two Interim Library Directors, but we have --

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Absolutely not.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: -- had to wait until it was finalized that we do have a new Director, but we certainly enjoyed Gayle's leadership and help in this area, and I'm sure she would appreciate a strategic plan, so thank you.

OLD BUSINESS - LIBRARY BOND PROGRAM - UPDATE

TIMETABLE FOR PHASE II

Now, we'll just move ahead into Old Business and the Library Bond Program Update. I know that the timetable for Phase II, if that has been decided, I am unaware of it.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: It has not been decided. We are
meeting -- we started a few meetings with the County Manager, Dick Anderson, and Al Collins, who is the Assistant Director of the General Services Building Program Projects, particularly in regard to the library. He's actually here in this building. We started meeting a few weeks ago, and talking about it, and gradually trying to determine which way to go. Suggestions and what have you from Al and I were expected by Dick Anderson.

The thing of it is as I said earlier, Central is the biggest part of the Phase II process. What we decide or what is decided about Central will have a real bearing on what happens with the other 23 renovations, so that's kind of where we are right now. We're still there. We don't know yet. There's some thoughts that we put out to the County Manager. He's reviewing them and sharing them with different Commissioners whose districts may be affected, and we're just trying to figure out which way to head with that.

They're well aware of some of the ideas that the Board of Trustees put forth in the past about Central, and so everybody's input, I think, is going to be needed, because it's a big question mark.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Just to give you a little background on Phase II, and according to the numbers, there's approximately $23 million to be bonded to update the remaining 23 branches. I don't think the money anticipated
having to deal with HVAC or roofs. It was more to freshen up the branches and make them have better computers, be more cutting edge, like some of our new branches are right now.

The other $85 million was for the Central Library, but it came with it a caveat that $50 million had to be raised from public funds, so the $85 million may not be let unless the $50 million is raised from public funds without a change in the Facility Master Plan.

The Facility Master Plan may be changed, but it has to go through a public process of people being made aware of it, so public notice, and have the opportunity to discuss it, and then to change it, two-thirds of the Board of Commissioners would be required to vote to change it. It's not just a simple majority, so we have sent -- the past Board sent a letter to the Board of Commissioners with some -- I believe I've shared this letter with you.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: You did.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Got it.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Some of the options that we, as a Board, considered, but the past Board could never reach a consensus about the future of Central. To renovate this building and to bring it up to a standard of what some of these buildings have done -- this is called a brutalist building because of the hard edges, I guess, and the concrete structure. To bring it more up to date is a very
expensive project, and we asked for a Feasibility Study of downtown to find out how the Central Library is used.

Gayle's pointed out the computers sound like they're well used when they're working, and how else is this library used? Do we really need, and I believe it's 265,000 square feet of space as a Central Library, or would we actually better serve the public with a brand-new facility that was more up to date?

MRS. PHYLLIS D. BAILEY: What are the other options as to renovating as opposed to what?

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: I don't have the letter in front of me, but we could renovate the library. We could sell the building and build a new building. The new building then could either be more of a branch library with some of the beautiful features you've seen in our new libraries, or one idea thrown out, although this was actually years ago was that we would build an iconic structure, iconic being on the ...

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Like Seattle.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Like Seattle or Salt Lake City.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Yes, and it would be a defining library in the area, which everyone agreed if we had all the money in the world, we would love to do that. The point is, 2008 hit. We've been struggling financially ever since. No one has stepped forward to even make up the $50 million, and
everyone agrees, an iconic structure, we're talking around 
$200 million, so in this economy, that money isn't there, so 
what we could do is repair this building, because as Gayle 
pointed out, it's got to have a new roof, and wait and put 
out a new bond issue for people, and ask them to build a 
brand-new iconic structure.

None of that decision has been made, and we have been 
wrangling with this for years, but the bonds must be let by 
the end of 2016, because that's what's written into the law, 
because they must have a 30-year sunset, so we can't wait 
past then.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: The $23 million, can that be bonded 
separately from the 85?

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: My understanding is it can.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Yes.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: They could have bonded it, and 
that's what I would encourage this Board to talk to their 
Commissioners about is bonding that $23 million now, because 
we certainly don't want to miss that date, and find out we 
don't even get the $23 million.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Again, just to reinforce what Stephanie 
said, if you don't mind speaking to your appointor, your 
Board of Commissioner appointor, and letting them know that 
these libraries need some updating. They need some repair, 
and that $23 million is there, and was set aside by the
citizens of Fulton County, but they need to act. They're the ones that need to act, so just let them know the Library Board of Trustees is ready to move, ready to support whatever they come up with, but we need to get moving.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** But it sounds as though the $23 million may not be enough to do all that needs to be done.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** It won't be.

**CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY:** The bottom line is that's all the money in the Facility Master Plan. You don't get the other money. Had there been any money left over from Phase I -- and I don't believe there is, but had there been some money left over -- there was even question if they could use Phase I money on Phase II, which is something for the lawyers to work out, but the Board, as it stood, made a promise to the public that this was how the money was going to be spent. Any deviation from that requires a change in the Facility Master Plan.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** We have to push our Commissioners, because you're actually penalizing the other branches.

**MR. JOHN THOMAS:** That's actually right, Paul.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** I mean, they're using this as a leverage. That's not right, and I'll talk to my Commissioner, and I think everybody else will, so we can get that released, and we'll get those branches working, get some work done to them.
CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Well, I think at the very least we need the $23 million.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yes.

FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR DOWNTOWN LIBRARY OPTIONS

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: And then I think this Board needs to put its head together and decide what they think is the best future for the downtown library, which is why a Feasibility Study would be useful, but did we not get a letter from the attorney talking about that?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: A Feasibility Study, I'm not sure about that. I do know that we have just -- as I mentioned earlier, the County Manager put in place an assessment of 108 buildings, and 23 of them being our older buildings, and Central is going to need to be assessed if we decide to renovate it, of course. The idea could be to sell Central, we don't know, but the assessments have to be done so that we know what the $23 million would be asked to cover, and so that is where we really are right now, and they just put that RFP on the street. I believe it was last Wednesday or Thursday.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: So it will be an outside firm?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: It would be an outside firm looking at 108 of our County buildings, 23 of them being libraries.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Okay.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: To assess where we are, what's needed,
what's it going to possibly cost and things like that.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** I guess my question is: Is the scope of that assessment strictly related to the bones of the building, or does it include things like Wi-Fi, communications programs, in other words?

**MS. GAYLE HOLLoman:** Now, the technology part of it is -- they're looking at the physicality of the building, the systems, HVAC and all that.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** So just the bones of the building.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLoman:** Yeah, the bones of the buildings. That's what they're looking at, because we know where we are with some of them already.

**DR. GREG MCPHERSON:** I've got a question, and I may very well be out of order, but I'm wondering if the Friends groups who have been working as advocates for the overall library structure, is there a way that we can probably get a copy of some of the documentation, especially some of these recommendations that would allow us to better advocate for some of the things that you guys are struggling with, in particular, trying to get the County Commissioners to move forward, and then for those of us who have partners and other things that we do, who also influence a lot of the dollars and the frequency of how those things move, is there a way we can get something that will allow, or if your Bylaws allow for us to actually have access to be privy to...
CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Well, Doctor, you are actually out of order. We don't usually allow comments from the side, but I will be glad to discuss that with you after the meeting --

DR. GREG MCPHERSON: Sure.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: -- and see what type of documents you have in mind. As far as minutes, they are a matter of public record, so you may see them at any time.

DR. GREG MCPHERSON: Sure.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Correspondence back and forth between this Board and the Board of Commissioners, I honestly don't know. Any correspondence that I have with an attorney is considered privileged correspondence, but I'll be glad to discuss this, and if anybody else would like to be a part of that conversation, we can do that at a later time.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Stephanie, there's one point of clarification. There is $23 million in Phase II for the remaining libraries.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: That's the math that I did.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Okay. Is it -- just happens to be that we're also talking three libraries?

MS. GAYLE HOLLoman: Twenty-three libraries, so it's like $1 million each.
CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: It's roughly $1 million each.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: I don't recall $1 million each.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Well, I mean, if you say 23, that is $23 million.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: That's what it averages out to be.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: But that wasn't what they said, no. They all had different amounts.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: They all had much different amounts.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Right, some lower.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: It's been so long since we did. It is 23 libraries and $23 million, okay, for the record.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Right, but when they did the figures, originally, many, many years ago, at that particular time, there were many libraries that were a lot less money, they thought would bring it up to where it needs to be, but now things have happened since then.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: They have.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: And so that becomes part of why we need an assessment.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Well, and one of our newest libraries, for instance, is Northeast/Spruill Oaks, which has had an ongoing HVAC problem, and has a horrible maintenance problem, so it probably wasn't budgeted as much, because it was new.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: That's fairly new.
CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: This process has taken much longer than anybody expected it to.

I thought we got a report from the attorney regarding money for a Feasibility Study, and the attorney said --

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: I forwarded you a document that he responded to Lee Morris on.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Okay. Thank you.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: It says, basically, we can't do anything.

I don't accept that as the final word.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Oh, good.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: So we've got to work the process, and to me, the Board of Commissioners has the authority, but we need to get the Board of Commissioners on board with committing to a Feasibility Study.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Yes, and to Josh's point, the reason we don't have any authority is we don't have any money. We can't just say we're doing a Feasibility Study, because all our money comes from Fulton County, which isn't totally true. We do get money from the state, and we get money from DeKalb, but basically, that's the bottom line.

So shall we bide our time until we find out what the County Manager comes up with the assessment for these hundred and --

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Well, it sounds like that's going to take till the end of the year. Is that what you're --
MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Well, of the 23 libraries, Central is not included in that. It's the 23 other renovations, and it can take a while. They've estimated that it could take November, December before we would -- they just put the RFP on the street, so it can take a while to get it back, and then to start that process, but they feel very comfortable that they'll have it by then.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: I think we need to go ahead and push ahead with the Central Feasibility Study and involve the County, since they have the authority, and the Board of Commissioners, since they have the super authority.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Right, well, we can write another letter that we believe a Feasibility Study needs to be made.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Well, we've written the one letter, so I guess what I'd like to do is -- I'll certainly talk to Lee, and I'd like to find out what the Board of Commissioners would like to see, because the letter is a letter whereas a Feasibility Study typically has an objective, a scope, a timeline, what needs to be accomplished, so we may need to provide them something a little bit more concrete in terms of what we're looking for --

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: In the Feasibility Study.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: In the Feasibility Study, yeah.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: And if you put together a document like that, then would you share it with the
MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Yeah, absolutely.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Yeah, please.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: -- and then they could share it with their County Commissioner.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Yeah. I'll do that.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: That would be great.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: I'll be happy to do that.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: All right, you're still up, because we're moving right on to the Bylaws and Constitution Review Committee Update.

BYLAWS AND CONSTITUTION REVIEW COMMITTEE - UPDATE

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: I don't have an updated set of Bylaws to propose at this point, and if anybody else would like to be on this committee, I think, basically, Stephanie, you said you will be on it. At our informal meeting in July, you asked several of us, or asked me to be part of a Bylaws committee and I've looked at it, and I think with a few fairly modest tweaks, some of which you've already done, we'll be able to have a set of Bylaws to send out to everybody before the September meeting, and hopefully, we can act upon it then. In other words, if it's 10 days required --

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: I believe it's -- well, of course, you would know. You have the Bylaws there.
MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Yeah, but right now, I'm thinking that we probably need to adjust the Bylaws for the fact that we're appointed on an annual basis or coincident with our ... 

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Calendar year ... 

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Calendar year, if you'd like, and there's one motion that I am going to make, and that is that we appoint a secretary, which is provided for in the, I guess, the guidelines that we receive from the State of Georgia to prepare minutes, and I think the verbatim minutes are quite useful to anybody who hasn't been at a meeting. I mean, I certainly have found them useful, but I think to the extent that we're attending meetings, you know, the trees get lost in the forest, so to speak, so we need to have a set of minutes that reflect the actions, and maybe a summary of some of the things discussed, so I'm going to make a motion if now is an appropriate time to do it, that we add a secretary position to the Board.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Actually, I don't think we can vote on something that isn't an action item in the minutes so the public is aware that we're voting on something, but you could certainly put it in the Bylaws, and when we discuss and vote on the Bylaws, that would be included in it.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Okay. That's fine with me.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: We could have a secretary, and I
couldn't agree more. We need a reminder of what went on in the meeting, so if there's any action that needs to be taken by this Board in the interim, that we go ahead and do it. A lot of times we wait so long for the minutes, no reflection on the court reporter, but the logistics of getting them there, back, and proofed and everything take time, and if we had our own minutes, we could also note areas that need action, and take that action in a more timely manner.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: So I will be circulating a draft, which will include that, but if anybody would like to discuss that, now's a good time to discuss it.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Would anyone like to serve on the Bylaws and Constitution Committee?

MRS. PHYLLIS D. BAILEY: I would.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: You would?

MRS. PHYLLIS D. BAILEY: Yes.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: All right.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Okay. Great.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Okay, and I, of course, will be glad -- I've already weighed in to a very certain degree.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Yeah.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: But I'm always open to improvement, so ...

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: I can be on it, also, I have no problems with that. That would be fine. The more heads, I think,
the better it is.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: All right. That sounds good.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: We may need to meet, but right now, I think what I'd like to do is circulate a draft, and have some e-mail back and forth, and if we need to meet, we'll meet.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Okay. Bear in mind, if you want a vote in September, the rest of the Board needs to have that draft.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Yeah. Well, first, the Committee will look at it, and then we'll set it out to the rest of the Board.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: And Zenobia is great with doing the doctored copy, and the old copy, and cross-through, and making it come out. I couldn't do that for whatever reason, but Zenobia was able to.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Yeah. Well, Word works pretty well. You know, everybody has Word. We'll be okay.

NEW BUSINESS

ROLE OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

BOARD PROCESS

REVIEW OF KEY MEASURES

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: All right. Moving on to New Business, the role of the Board of Trustees, the Board process and Review of Key Measures, I believe. Is this your
MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Yeah.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Okay.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Well, I think the -- I set out, I think, an e-mail on the role of the Board, which to me, we're in a transition state from the old system where we didn't have any authority, other than our ability to persuade, and my own view is that we need to have enough authority so that the Director who will report to us, has more authority than the Director currently has, and to me, the basic -- if you think of a Board, we should be dealing with strategy. We should be dealing with the policy. We should be dealing with executive management, and to the extent that we get reports in terms of how the operating of the system is either working or not working, that comes to the Director or the Interim Director in this case, and if it needs action on the part of the Board, then the Board can take it, so I don't know how everybody else has experienced Board work, but that's kind of my experience.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Well, I think your document -- and I don't think anybody got this ahead of time, and I got sort of a garbled copy, but then I did get -- I thought this was a very revealing document --

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Yes.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: -- how we compare to other
MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Yeah, but that's sort of a separate issue from what the Board's mission is.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Okay.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: So I'd like to hear from the Board members, some of whom I haven't met before.

MS. JAMILICA BURKE: Oh.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: My background is as management consultant, and I've both advised Boards and served on Boards, so I mean, this is kind of my view of what a Board should be doing, focusing on strategy, management, policies, but I'd like to hear anybody else's thought, because this, I'm planning to put into the Constitution and Bylaws, what our role should be, and we can have a further discussion on it at the next meeting.

How do you view this?

MS. JAMILICA BURKE: Well, when I think about a Board, I do think of it as someone that does a lot of -- helps with the strategic planning and management of the things that are taking place, again, also, of course, on the fundraising side, as well, is what I really think of when I think of a Board.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Right.

MS. JAMILICA BURKE: And then what policies need to be put in place in order to help us to implement the things that we
want to see take place in our libraries.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Okay.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: And Jamilica ...

MS. JAMILICA BURKE: Yes.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: You weren't here for our informal meeting. Would you mind taking just a moment and just telling us a little bit about yourself?

MS. JAMILICA BURKE: Okay. Well, my name is Jamilica Burke, and I have actually been living in Atlanta since 2002. My formal training, I was actually a teacher for nine years with the Atlanta Public Schools, and now I have been working in non-profit and for-profit positions around education and educational equity, so currently, I'm the Director of Programs for PlayWorks, which is a non-profit organization, and we focus on child development and social/emotional learning.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Okay. Great.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: And Chip, you weren't here, either. Would you like to say a few words about yourself?

MR. CHIP JOYNER: Yes, Chip, reappointed to the Board by Commissioner Arrington. Previously, I served under Commissioner Joan Garner, and then prior to that, I served under -- or I was initially appointed by Commissioner Nancy Boxill.

I'm an entrepreneur here in town. I operate
restaurants in Atlanta and in New York, and I'm just excited
to continue serving on the Board, really interested to hear
about, kind of getting some more alignment with what the
vision and the mission of the Board is with some authority,
so it actually has some meaning behind it, so it's really
refreshing hearing new ideas and new thoughts, and some new
energy with the Board, and you have my complete support in
trying to pull it all together, and anything I can share and
offer, would be great.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Okay. Perfect.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: To your report on the Board
process, I have been in contact with the State Librarian,
and if this Board so chooses, they are very happy to come to
us and do a Board training program about the expectations of
Board service for a library. We can choose to do that on a
meeting day, or we could choose a separate day if we wanted
to. Are there any thoughts about that? Our Bylaws do say
there is supposed to be Board training within so many months
of taking a seat on the Board.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Well, I certainly would be supportive of
that, because anytime you've got an outside person coming in
to talk about -- who has familiarity with how all the
systems work, you can't help but learn, so I would be
supportive of that, and it could be the same day or a
different day.
MRS. PHYLLIS D. BAILEY: Madam Chair, I would certainly support that kind of strategy, also, because I think that the more training we have, the more effective we can become, and I will certainly go along with it, whether it be at the library meeting or a different date. It would be perfectly fine with me.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: We did this quite often, as far as training is concerned, and how we did it was that we never had it during a regular Board meeting. We had it on a Saturday. We actually called a retreat, and one day we had it for two days, and you accomplish a lot that way, because you're focused on what you're talking about. You don't have this business in front of you. You're just talking about what the person's facilitating, and it really worked well. We even had somebody come in and talk about how do you talk to the press.

MRS. PHYLLIS D. BAILEY: True.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: So they confronted us, and what are you going to do? Are you going to get defensive? The training was fabulous, but they talked about trustees and what their roles are and so on, but I am curious about the State Librarian. How does the State Librarian function?

Illinois is completely different than here. In Illinois, every branch is by itself, separate by itself, and then there's a State Librarian. It's a completely different
kind of a system, but in Georgia, what does a State Librarian do?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: The State Librarian runs the Georgia Public Library Service. From what my gathering of it has always been is that they deal a lot more, not so much with the libraries in the metro areas, but primarily with the rural libraries, more so, as support, because a lot of them do not have a lot of support, so I think they do a lot of focusing on that. They do training, provide training. They have a couple of different conferences per year, and those are primarily attended by those smaller library system Directors, but they do offer a lot of -- well, they did in the past -- offer our IT services, and support our databases and what have you, and I sort of miss that, but they do provide a lot of things like that, and they also support summer reading in the sense that they are the ones who -- Summer Reading Program announcements and planning starts with the ALA, but then the Georgia Public Library Service always gets all of the materials together and processes all that. They pay for all the materials that they send us, such as the notebooks and all the things we're supposed to use for advertising and what have you, they provide that every year, and they do that for the whole State of Georgia. I think it's 163 libraries throughout.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Has this Board ever gone to the American
Library Association convention?

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Yeah. I went.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Is that something required by -- is it required that the members go on a Board?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: It isn't required, and we used to send a lot of people when we had funding. We used to have a lot of -- and that's one of my real concerns, is that we do not have funding to send at least some people to conference every year, and every year that I've ever gone, I had to pay my own way.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Really.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: So I think there has been some money in the past for the -- years ago, there was some money for the Director to go, but even that changed, and so we just don't have travel and training anymore like we once did.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: That's really a shame.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: It is.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: The American Library Association convention used to be in Atlanta.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: It's awesome.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: It got dropped out. It's completely out of the system. I do not know, and I'm still trying to find out what happened.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: The ALA?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: ALA.
MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: It was here in 2000, because I was Deputy Director.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: I was here.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Yeah. I was Deputy Director of the conference.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: And now, they don't have Atlanta listed at all.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: I think we're coming -- they're coming here in 2017. It's either ALA or PLA, but I think what they did was they talked to DeKalb. I think we may have lost it, because they have not contacted us by now, but they are coming to Atlanta.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: But I suggest that this new Board at least go to one of the conferences, or somehow have the money to send at least our librarian and a couple of people to go along with it.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Well, that's a request we could make of the Foundation.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: Yeah, and frankly, I think it's a great idea, Stephanie. I endorse what Paul is saying. I've been to three of those. I come away loaded with more information, and hopefully, a better trustee from having been there.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Well, I belong to the Library Trustees Association, also, and you'll learn a lot --
MR. JOHN THOMAS: You do.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: -- at the conferences. It's amazing what you can bring back. What we did in Illinois, at least at my local library, the conveyor bed, where the books come down. It senses the books. It puts it in the bin, and then you can put it in there. It's a lot of new things coming up.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: We have that.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: And there's almost 600-something exhibitors out there, and when I was down in California, there was 47,000 people that came to them, not only in the United States, but all over the world. I mean, it's that popular.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: I think it's great, but back to the training session, could you initiate an e-mail and find out if there's a convenient time? It sounds like a --

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Yes. I would like to talk to the State Librarian and ask about their timetable.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Right.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: They aren't the only place that does training, but they seem like a good place to start, and I will definitely initiate an e-mail. I don't think we need a two-day retreat --

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: No, no. You can have the one day, but I don't think you should have it after a Board meeting.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: -- but I am fine with either a
weekend or a weekday, depending on the pleasure of the Board, so yes, I will initiate that.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Okay. Good.

**CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY:** Because of the timing, and because we have some guests, I wonder if it's all right if we move to the last item on the agenda at this time. Is that all right? Did you -- I know you didn't get to finish your --

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Well, though, the key measures that you have, let's discuss them next time, and if you have any questions on them, if you want to ask me beforehand, just e-mail me, and Gayle, I think what I would like to do is follow up with you to see if we have some past history, because a snapshot is one thing, but if we look at a five-year history that tells a different story than just a one-year snapshot -- so by the next meeting, hopefully, we'll have a little bit fuller picture to talk about.

**CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY:** Item B on New Business is the Nomination of the Board of Trustees Officer's Committee Report.

**MR. JOHN THOMAS:** Yes. The Committee has convened. The Committee is myself as Chair, and Paul and Phyllis as Committee members. We do have -- the Bylaws, let me begin there.

**NOMINATIONS OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES OFFICERS**
The Bylaws do require that the nominating committee present a slate of officers at its August meeting for election in September. We're going to just deviate a little bit from that, and highlight the importance of -- we do have a slate, and I'll present that slate in a moment, but we do want to encourage, particularly, the new members.

Any new member who wants to come forward and have their name thrown into the hat for Chair or Vice-Chair, please let me or Paul or Phyllis know, because on the election day, which is the meeting in September, I will present the slate, which I'll talk about in a moment, but the floor is then opened for any nominees from the floor, and it would be unusual to have, for example, myself to present myself or nominate myself, but it can be done. Typically, someone else may submit -- I may submit Chip's name as a nominee, but we will take nominees from the floor at the September meeting, so if you're a new member, and you want to get involved in the leadership of the Board of Trustees, primarily as Chair or Vice-Chair, let me or Paul or Phyllis know, but with all that said, the nominating committee does have a slate that we'd like to present, and that would be as Chair, it will be Stephanie Moody, continuing on.

Stephanie represents a lot of experience, and more than that, she represents a lot of continuity, which a new Board, I think, needs, so Stephanie is our nominee for Chair, and
then Paul Kaplan, to my left, has agreed to serve as
Vice-Chair, and Paul is new, but he’s not new to libraries,
as you can tell.

He was very active in the library system in Illinois,
and comes with a wealth of experience, so that is our slate,
Madam Chair, and like I said, we’ll open it up to the Board,
to the floor for nominees in September.

Any questions?

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: All right. Thank you for that
report, and for that vote of confidence. I do feel it's
important to have continuity, and libraries are my passion,
so I appreciate the opportunity to serve this Board.

I want to remind you that after our Executive Session,
that there will be a tour of the building if you would like
to join it. I can't say exactly when that will be, but
approximately 12:30, and that I want to bring to your
attention the packet of information, which is a regular part
of our Board meetings, which usually is what has been
happening that receives media attention, and other documents
that might be of interest to just bring you more up to date
on what the library does throughout the month, so it's a big
one this month.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: We received a lot of coverage about the
opening of the new libraries. That was covered by almost
every paper north and south, and the AJC, and opening three
libraries in one month. It's historical. I don't know if anyone's ever done it before, but we were able to do it, and it turned out very well, so I'm very excited about that, and of course, covering our Summer Reading Programs and all of our partnerships with different groups, such as the Mayor's Summer Reading Program, the Centers for Hope, it's just been a phenomenal summer, so we're very excited.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Well, congratulations, for pulling that off.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Thank you. I am so tired. It's monumental.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Yes, but you must be feeling very relieved.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Well, I'm very happy about it. We've got Metropolitan coming up, and we'll let you all know the opening date for that one real soon, as soon as we get some more information from the major players about the date.

MR. JOHN THOMAS: But that won't be until after the first of the year, probably.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Oh, no, it's opening sometime between September and October. Metropolitan is replacing Stewart-Lakewood, which is currently our oldest library.

CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY: Before we adjourn, I would like to introduce Ms. Andrea Battle Sims from Waters & Company, and she is going to tell us a little bit about her company,
and how we can all participate in the search for a new Director, so would you like to say anything to the whole Board for a matter of public record before we go into Executive Session, or ... 

**MS. ANDREA BATTLE SIMS:** I'm honored to have the opportunity to do the work on behalf of the organization. I love libraries. I'm a heavy user of libraries in Ohio, but I've also been fortunate enough to do a number of Library Director recruitments across the country, so I'm honored to do so.

**CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY:** Thank you. Is there any other business?

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

May I have a motion to adjourn?

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** So moved.

**CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY:** A second?

**MR. JOHN THOMAS:** Second.

**CHAIRMAN STEPHANIE MOODY:** All in favor?

(Whereupon, all said "Aye.")

We are adjourned.

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LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

(13) way - 85
Systemwide Highlights

August was a phenomenal month throughout the Library System. Along with receiving accolades for the services provided at the six new libraries opened since September of 2014, our existing branches; and planning and preparing for the upcoming opening of the Metropolitan Library, staff also celebrated the end of a great 2015 Summer Reading Program. This year, patrons and staff experienced an extraordinary summer, celebrating reading and literacy. With the help of the Greg Street Foundation and V-103 Radio Station and a summer of exciting programs funded by a generous grant from the Goddard Foundation, the performers and events had a great start and finish. The Greg Street Foundation provided giveaways of 34 Kindle Fires and A Mac Book Pro. In addition, staff hosted various back to school programs, premiered the new online library card application on the Library’s website and started a new Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group in partnership with the Fulton County Juvenile Court at the Mechanicsville Library which will expand to all libraries.

Libraries have traditionally used unique ways to incorporate literacy in their service initiatives. The summer reading program is an area in which libraries have developed programs for children during those times that school is not in session. Every year the Atlanta Fulton Public Library System celebrates children, reading and literacy through the collaborative summer reading program. Library staff develops programs that not only provide fun experiences in the library, but also programs that help build reading and language skills in children, as well as motivate teens to read and discuss literature with the hope of encouraging a life-long interest in reading and libraries. In 2014 the library welcomed over 169,792 patrons to the library for programs. This summer, with the support of the John N. Goddard Foundation Grant, we were able to offer an array of programs that coincided with many aspects of literacy and reading but also programs that support Science, technology, engineering, the arts and Mathematics known as STEAM programs. Every branch within the Library System had a science program that provided support for Science education. The effort was very well received and, noting the diversity of Fulton County, the program reached children might not have otherwise been introduced to computer coding or 3D printing. We are truly thankful for the contributions made by the John H. Goddard Foundation and hope to continue in this stead for years to come.

Adams Park

Staff was excited to have gained a new partnership with Another Level Learning Tutoring Center in August. They have agreed to conduct free tutoring services to elementary school children every Monday evening. To promote the program, a Back to School Bash was held. Participants were excited about the program. Many children were registered and there were games, giveaways, a DJ, a Bounce House for the children and food was provided. Staff from the Atlanta
Fire Department, and the Fulton County Police Department, were also attended; and the Fulton County Health Department staff setup a display and presented valuable health information.

Staff promoted the *Have a Blind Date with A book* display- Many books were wrapped in paper so the patrons could not see the book cover or the title until they checked the book out. It may have been a book unknown to the patron by author or title, but it would, hopefully, have been one found to be enjoyable.

**Adamsville/Collier Heights**

Summer Reading culminated with assistance from Friends of the Adams Park Library. The Friends sponsored a Back to School Bash where they served snacks, showed a movie and gave away books. The program was presented to encourage the students to do well in school and let them know they and the library are a support system to help them succeed in school.

Savannah Brooks won the Kindle Fire donated by the Greg Street Foundation and V-103. Ms. Brooks is a life-long reader and she read over 50 books during the summer. She is constantly in the library selecting books to read.

Other branch prize winners were also excited to receive flash drives, reading pouches and e-device holders.

**Alpharetta**

August was an exciting and busy month for Alpharetta Library staff. Patrons love the new building which is evident as circulation is now second system-wide, surpassing Roswell and getting so close to Ocee that our goal is to surpass them in September. The community is enjoying the use of the branch’s meeting rooms, auditorium and study rooms.

The staff focused on shifting the collection to integrate the 22,000 items from the old collection and unbox and shelve an additional 8,000 new items. Staff also registered 641 new users and renewed 1,182 existing users. Staff hosted 26 programs making use of our new technologies, including Family Video Game Night, and Family Movie Night.

Branch Manager, Marcia Divack, with assistance from Friends of Alpharetta Library Treasurer, Linda Statham, retrieved the Navajo quilt hanging in the old building so it can be cleaned and restored and eventually brought to the new building.

ESL with Terry, Sahaja Meditation, and the Alpharetta Scrappers/Scrapbooking Club all returned after a two month hiatus.

**Auburn Avenue Research Library**

During the month of August the Auburn Avenue Research Library staff members were engaged in a variety of activities including providing public service to patrons in-house, by telephone and via the email. Staff members and volunteers were also engaged in various collection processing and maintenance activities including processing and cataloging of new materials, shelf reading and inventory, shelving book and non-book materials into the research collections, and facilitating a diverse mix of programs and events that promoted the AARL’s mission.
The Reference and Research Division (RRD) staff members attended system-wide/county-wide training sessions, community meetings, presented collaborative programmed events, and coordinated closing exhibition activities.

The Archives Division (ARD) staff continued to be involved in various scholarly activities which included research services, outreach and assisting researchers; and completed their respective projects and other assigned responsibilities in a timely manner.

The Program Division (PRD) presented and/or co-sponsored seven programs and events including book discussions, film screenings, exhibitions, and community discussions on relevant topics impacting and affecting the African American community-at-large.

SPECIAL PROJECTS/ PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- **The AARL Renovation and Expansion Project:**
  8/17 – Perimeter shelving meeting with Dick Beery, Patterson-Pope and the AARL Project Team members.
  8/18 – Technology meeting with James Chester and Associate, TLC Engineering and the AARL Project Team members.
  8/26 – The AARL Project Team Managerial staff members (Johnson, Gardner and Robinson) convened to discuss and develop storyboards for the new video wall. Nine out of ten storyboards were developed for the video wall located in the pre-function area/lobby on the first floor. Ideas for the storyboards included an overview and history of the AARL, information on each division, services offered, programming, exhibitions and financial donors.

- **AARL Transition Phase I (Temporary Relocation):**
The Reference and Research Division (RRD) staff has completed tagging the first floor reference books and has begun scanning. Ms. Charmaine R. Johnson and Ms. Gloria J. Mims are coordinating the RFID project activities.

- **First Thursday Downtown Arts Walk:**
Due to its temporary closure, the Auburn Avenue Research Library presented upcoming exhibitions at its AARL Satellite Gallery locations at the Hammonds House Museum and at the Central Library. Exhibitions on view included the following:


  - *Different Frames of Mind: The Caribbean Experience Exhibition* (June 1, 2015 – August 23, 2015) Venue: Central Library

- The Auburn Avenue Research Library (AARL), in collaboration with the Collier Heights Community Association and Hammonds House Museum, hosted *The View From Collier Heights* a photographic exhibition by photographer Lydia A. Harris, this stunning exhibit and art book documents the Collier Heights community located in Northwest Atlanta, Georgia. As the photographs explore mid-century modern architecture, the intimacy of the artist’s
experience unfolds, as intricate interiors are revealed. Taken between 2010 and 2014, the photographs pay tribute to a community that served as the cultural and economic cornerstone of Atlanta’s black middle class and was instrumental to the regional Civil Rights Movement. The exhibit was on display in the AARL Satellite Gallery at the Hammonds House Museum.

- In observance of National Caribbean American Heritage Month, the AARL presented *Different Frames of Mind: the Caribbean Experience Exhibition*. The exhibit was on display in the AARL Satellite Exhibit Gallery of the Central Library. The exhibition featured the artwork of four visual artists whose creativity captures the spirit and essence of Caribbean life and culture from different artistic viewpoints and mediums. There was also an artist’s talk and closing reception.

- The AARL, in collaboration with the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement (MXGM) and Hammonds House Museum, hosted “Black August, The Life and Legacy of Mutuulu Shakur”, a community discussion facilitated by Dr. Makungu Akinyela of Georgia State University. In recognition of Black August, Dr. Akinyela, explored the personal activist history of political prisoner Mutuulu Shakur, an iconic figure in the post-Civil Rights Black Liberation Movement. The event was held at the Hammonds House Museum.

- Onyxcon Institute, in collaboration with the Southwest Library and the AARL, hosted “New Black Media Evolution, Traditional Comics, Graphic Novels and Visual Concepts in Emerging Dynamic Media Platforms”. This community panel discussion was facilitated by new media artist and content creators who are successfully transitioning their work from traditional media to emerging dynamic media platforms, ensuring the black presence in the new distribution avenues for popular art and culture. Panelists included Eric Dean Seaton, creator, writer and publisher of the graphic novel series, “Legend of the Mantamaji;” Keef Cross, creator, writer and publisher of the graphic novel series and film, “Day Black,” and Multimedia producer and journalist Bruno Gaston, who moderated the discussion. The event was held at the Southwest Library.

- As part of the African Cinema as Art Film Series, Featuring the Work of Ousmane Sembene, Hammonds House Museum, in collaboration with the AARL, hosted a screening of the feature film, *Moolaadé (Magical Protection)* - 120 min.), written and directed by Ousmane Sembène. Under the protection of Colle Gallo Ardo Sy (Fatoumata Coulibaly), an independent woman with mystical powers, six pre-adolescent girls refuse to undergo ritual female circumcision, sparking a revolution that challenges the oppressive patriarchy of their unnamed West African village. The event was held at the West End Library.

- The AARL, in collaboration with the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement (MXGM) and Hammonds House Museum, hosted “Black August, Women in the Vanguard of the Black Liberation Movement”, a community discussion facilitated by Dr. Makungu Akinyela of Georgia State University. In recognition of Black August, Dr. Akinyela discussed the historical and contemporary contributions of women in the post-Civil Rights Black Liberation Movement. The event was held at the Hammonds House Museum.
In collaboration with Charis Books and More and Hammonds House Museum, the AARL, hosted cultural commentator and journalist Tamara Winfrey Harris, who discussed her latest publication *The Sisters Are Alright: Changing the Broken Narrative of Black Women in America*. Following in the footsteps of Ntozake Shange, Harris, explores the authentic lived experiences of black women, allowing them to serve as the architects of their own narratives, free from distortion or marginalization. This event was held at the Hammonds House Museum.

A sampling of staff research projects and/or queries received in person, by telephone and email during the month of August (Reference):

The AARL staff received inquiries about the library’s closure, pending re-opening and access to research materials. However, of particular note are the following reference queries –

- A researcher inquiring on a photograph of Julia Harvin Palmore (the sister of Ellen, the first wife of Dr. Benjamin E. Mays). Referral was made to the Atlanta History Center Kenan Research Center for the Benjamin E. Mays Photographs Collection.

- Inquiry on ten African American authors born in or with some connection to Columbus, Georgia. Individuals were identified and included a current congressman, a blind pianist, a blues singer/guitarist, a writer, a baseball pitcher, a missionary, a bridge builder, and a former chief justice of the state supreme court.

- Provided information to a walk-in researcher inquiring about the Central Library’s architect Marcel Breuer (1902 – 1981).

Sample of patrons’ research projects and/or queries received in person, by telephone and email during the month of August (Archives):


- Researcher: Atlanta, Georgia, research work focused on Grady Graduate Nurses. Collection and finding aids used: National Conclave of Grady Graduate Nurses Collection.
• Researcher: Assistant Professor of African American Studies, Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia, online visitation, research work focused on The Chemical Key to Black Greatness. Collection and finding aids used: Andrew Young Papers.

Archival collections used in the month of August:
• Komozi Woodard / Amiri Baraka Collection
• The 27 Club
• Andrew Young Papers.
• B. B. Beamon Collection
• National Conclave of Grady Graduate Nurses Collection

Staff Training/Professional Development:
• Staff completed processing 10 boxes of archival materials from the Henderson Travels Collection. Staff also completed 7 telephone research transactions and scanned 4 photographs, and more than 17 documents, for researchers.

• Staff completed 15 online and email research transactions, mostly on the use of materials from the following collections, National Conclave of Grady Graduate Nurses Collection, Komozi Woodard Amiri Baraka Collection, Andrew Young Papers and B. B. Beamon Collection.

• Staff assisted six visiting research fellows (four in-house and two online) complete their research work.

• Staff represented the AARL at the ARCHE Archives Council Meeting deliberation.

• Staff participated in the AARL Presentation at the James Weldon Johnson Institute for the Study of Race and Difference, Emory University, College of Arts and Sciences.

• Staff gave a presentation to the members of the Atlanta Jamaican Association, potential donors, who visited the Archives Division.

• Staff is currently working on the completion of Dr. Alton Hornsby, Jr., Papers and adding 10 boxes discovered recently, and getting the finding aids ready for the Digital Library of Georgia’s online exposure and onto the AARL Online Databases, under the AARL’s finding aids.

• Gloria J. Mims, Librarian Senior, is currently serving on the Local Arrangements Committee for the upcoming Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) scheduled to be held in Atlanta, Georgia from September 23 – 27, 2015. ASALH, organized in 1915, is the founding organization of Black History Month and is observing its 100th anniversary this year.
• Ms. Mims attended the Biennial Black Caucus of American Library Association (BCALA)’s 9th National Conference of African American Librarians (NCAAL) that convened in St. Louis, Missouri, August 4 - 8, 2015. The theme, “MEET AT THE GATEWAY: Reimagining Communities, Technologies, and Libraries”, was most appropriately inclusive of sessions, presenters, and activities that represented a diverse number of topics that generated great interest during the Conference.

Education and Outreach:

• Mr. Okezie Amalaha, Librarian Senior, and Ms. Sharon E. Robinson, Interim Research Library Administrator, presented an introduction and overview of the AARL’s resources and services to three Fellows and institute coordinators of the James Weldon Johnson Institute for the Study of Race and Difference, Emory University, College of Arts and Sciences on Monday, August 17th.

DATA AND STATISTICS
Archives Division

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Program Division
- Number of Programs: 5
- Total Program Attendance: 176
- Presented Exhibits: 2
- Total Exhibit Attendance: 135

Reference and Research Division
- Books Added to Collection – 100
- Journals/Magazines Added to Collection – 25
- Media (DVDs-31; Music CDs-2; Spoken-1) Added to Collection – 34
- Newspapers Added to Collection – 205
- New Books Received – 75
- New Media Received - 22

Reference Questions Answered and Computer Usage
- Directional Questions – 54
- Questions Referred – 4
- Ready Reference Questions – 66
- Research Consultations (mailed-3; emailed-19; telephone-2; in person-4) – 28
- Research Items Requested – 67
- Ready Reference Telephone Inquiries – 24

Patron/Researchers
- Patrons/Researchers Served – 102

Total for the Year
- Books Added to Collection – 1097
- Media Added to Collection – 71
- Serials (Journals/Magazines/Newsletters/Newspapers) Added to Collection – 2110
- New Books Received – 822
- New Media Received – 57
- Directional Questions – 625
- Questions Referred – 69
- Ready Reference Questions – 822
- Research Consultations – 154
- Research Items Requested – 889
- Ready Reference Telephone Inquiries – 264
- Patron/Researchers Served – 974

Buckhead
The beginning of the month was the culmination of the Summer Reading Program and the start of fall programming preparations. New books continued to arrive at the branch. The refreshing of the collection was one thing focused on by the staff during the month. The staff sponsored a
number of much needed programs for the public. The staff began promoting fall programming. The program flyers were posted and the information was posted on Social Web. There was a usage increase of the small meeting room for study groups.

Central

The Interim Central Library Administrator continued to work with the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) which administers the country’s Schools and Libraries (E-rate) Program. Additional clarification was requested for the Library’s FCC Form 471. The library had to supply additional information to USAC regarding the connection type for its Internet Service. In addition, the Library’s Internet Use Policy had to be submitted in response to a requested audit.

The Interim Central Library Administrator set up a meeting with Fulton County IT, the Interim Library Director, Library Finance and an E-Rate Analyst from the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia in order to prepare for the 2016/2017 471 E-rate application for the library as well as to discuss a new application (470) for Category 2 E-rate services. Category 2 E-rate services are internal connections (consisting of Wi-Fi equipment and managed Wi-Fi) and Basic Maintenance of Internal Connections.

The Interim Central Library Administrator (and Branch Services administrators along with IT staff) attended a 3-day workshop regarding the new technology being offered in the newly opened libraries. The training allowed for one to become a super-user who can train others and troubleshoot equipment. The training included hands on training with staff from Bibliotheca and training at two of the new libraries, Northwest and East Roswell. The training introduced participants to the new technology now found at the new libraries. Training covered all new equipment: Tagging; Gate training; Self-Checkout Kiosk and Dispenser operations; Self-check 400 series - 200 series; Smart Administration; and on the Automated Materials Handling System. The workshop not only involved learning the new technology but it also involved understanding the impact of the new technology on the library system. Understanding of the new technology and the training needs of the library system as a whole was discussed by all the participants.

Adult Programming and Outreach

On August 4th staff members participated in a National Night out Library Card Drive and Information session. Most of the visitors that came to the tent had AFPLS library cards already, and many benefitted from being introduced to the eCampus suite of databases and other services that are available to them at the Library. There were serval Commissioners and political figures that did come to the tent to say hello on that evening as well. Marvin Arrington Jr., John Eaves, Emma Darnell, Mayor Ayers of the City of Fairburn, and D. “Chip” Joyner, were happy to see the library presence there giving information about eCampus to all of the students going back to school. More than 400 people attended the event and several new library card applicants come to the table, four left applications and many that did not have cards wanted to take their application to their local branches.

Staff was invited to participate in the Maximum Impact Back to School Jam that took place on August 8th off Fulton Industrial Parkway. The event was well attended by many students and families from the area. In total, staff spoke to more than 133 people about the library and the
ways that it can make the school year easier for students and parents. More than 20 new library cards were issued at the event.

On August 16th staff participated in library outreach at Zoo Atlanta for Free Fulton Days at the Zoo. During the course of the day, staff spoke to more than 523 people and created more than 110 new library cards for zoo-goers. Many of the families had a library card already or were from out of state. It was a very productive day at the Zoo and staff was asked to return and participate again in the future.

Outreach Services staff was asked to go to Morris Brandon Elementary on August 28th to celebrate those students that participated in Summer Reading with AFPLS as a reward. Staff spoke to and told stories to 51 children (K-1st) and 7 adults. Staff also told the Media Specialist about the online applications. The Media Specialist said that she was going to add the link to the school’s website and in the newsletter for the next week.

Operation HOPE is also working with Central Adult programming to bring financial programs that are designed to eradicate poverty and promote financial dignity at no cost to the community members. They will begin programs in October and hopefully this will lead to a long and productive future.

Coffee USA will be at the Central Library in the New Year with programming that will focus on financial literacy with different programs each month. The classes will be as follows: January – Get Out of Debt in 9 Years or Less; February – Social Security Maximization and I.D. Theft Prevention; March – Financial College Planning and Business Banking; April - Get out of Debt 9 years or Less and I.D. Theft Prevention; and May – Financial Planning for College.

The Outreach Services Manager is working on more programs to come that will be a part of the “Healthy, Wealthy, and Wise 2016” Adult Programming that will be at the Central Library and shared with the branches as well.

Circulation Services
The revised online library card application went live in August. The new online application allows the patron to select one of the various library cards offered as well as select their home branch. The past library card did not allow the patron to select the card type. It also went only to one email inbox at Central where only the Central Library Circulation staff members would input all of the requests. The new application distributes the work systemwide and just as when a patron walks into a branch and fills out a library card application and the staff at the branch input the application, the new online application achieves the same objective. The online library card application was put up on the website in time for September which is National Library Card Month. The online application allowed the library to promote President Obama’s ConnectED Library Challenge. The challenge is to make sure every child has his or her own library card.
General Collections and Ivan Allen Jr. Reference Department

A librarian in the Reference Department conducted a book talk on the novel *Ragtime*. Three people attended and it was a thought provoking and interesting discussion.

Staff in the General Collections Department, translated a flyer into Spanish for the use to promote library card sign-up.

In preparation for the fall football season a Librarian in the Reference Department, did a display titled “Are You Ready for Some Football?” She invited Central staff members to lend their memorabilia from their favorite football teams for the cabinet. Teams represented are the Atlanta Falcons, University of Georgia, New Orleans Saints, University of Alabama, Auburn University, Green Bay Packers, University of Wisconsin, University of Texas, the Pittsburgh Steelers, New England Patriots, Buffalo Bills, Southwest DeKalb High School, and Georgia Tech. This display has gotten a lot of attention from many of library patrons.

Another Librarian in the Reference Department, was invited to participate in a Georgia State University Coffee Talk discussion with students in March of 2016. Georgia State University hosts coffee talks in the morning with 10-15 students and a community member to discuss and sometimes debate a topic; they were looking for a library representative to come to the talk on Technology Overdose and how technology has changed the way people learn and receive information.

A Youth Services Department Librarian invited staff in the General Collections and the Ivan Allen, Jr. Reference departments to participate in a library tour. On Friday, August 28, ten high school homeschooled students participated in a 30-minute demonstration of the Atlanta Journal/Constitution (AJC) on microfilm and how to use the microfilm machines and AJC index books.

The Department Manager conducted a Central Library tour for a new member of the Library Board of Trustees and a representative from the job search firm for the new library director.

Art Gallery

The August-September Lower Level Gallery exhibit, entitled *Celebrate the Future*, presented by the Atlanta Artists Center (AAC) was installed on Saturday, August 1, by Atlanta Artists Center members Ruth Gogel and two other participating artists. The exhibit will be up through Friday, September 18, but due to the Labor Day holiday weekend, there will not be a First Thursday Art Reception held in September.

The opening reception for *Celebrate the Future* was held on Thursday, August 6th and was well attended by 23 people. Atlanta Artists Center Board member, Ruth Gogel and several other exhibiting artists attended and gave brief discussions of their work on the exhibit and their art practices. Volunteer and former employee, Shirley Favors helped set up and attended to the refreshments table. General Collections staffers, the Atlanta Artists Center exhibiting artists, and Shirley Favors provided an array of light refreshments.
General Collections Department staff coordinated the traveling “A Day with HIV” photo exhibit from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Let’s Stop HIV Together campaign and their partner group Positively Aware. The exhibit aims to raise awareness about HIV and prevent stigma. This is the second time the Central Library has hosted the exhibit, which is made up of all new images for this year’s campaign.

**General Collections**  
In August, General Collections continued to focus on weeding duplicate and or damaged items from the collections.

**Ivan Allen, Jr. Reference Department**  
Ms. Kathy Piselli, a Reference Department Librarian, continues her work with the “Poetic Voices of the Muslim World” grant with programming to begin in September. Ms. Piselli and Mr. John Wright, a Librarian in the Special Collections Department, were very pleased to have a live link on the Library homepage under the “Latest News” section. She has publicized the programs through free online sites that host event listings and email blasts to individuals and organizations.

Interlibrary Loan  
Interlibrary loan trainings were held on August 13th and 14th. Ten people attended the sessions and there is a lot of interest in future trainings. Staffers got very positive feedback from everyone and are looking forward to the trainings in October.

Virtual Reference  
According to tally sheets & departmental logs, the Library’s remote reference units processed 2,015 information transactions this month with a daily average of 65.

The month’s total was slightly lower than last month’s despite increases in most categories, due to the smaller number of phone questions recorded. Totals for August 2015 were significantly lower, reflecting more than anything the fact that the computers in the Virtual Reference suite have had no Internet service for more than two weeks. Staffers handled 1,837 telephone questions, 92 chats, 86 deferrals, and email questions.

**Learning and Career Center**  
During the month of August, overall statistics showed remarkably solid numbers in all service areas. There were 12,245 computer usages. Ninety-seven (97) participants attended 11 computer class sessions. Eighty-five (85) patrons utilized the Mavis Beacon typing system. Twenty-three (23) patrons watched the audio/video training sessions in Microsoft Operating System software. Seven patrons attended the once weekly English As a Second Language class.

GED classes held in partnership with the Atlanta Public Schools served 34 unduplicated individuals. Participants were in attendance a total of 179 times during the month to 38 class sessions. The classes averaged five students each in attendance. Also, the month of August saw the beginning of the new academic year for the Atlanta Public Schools. In the Pearson VUE Testing Program, we served 18 unduplicated individuals. A total of 34 tests were administered.
during eight testing programs. Four students graduated from the program during the month of August, 2015.

Among the graduates was a lady in her mid-thirties who shared her journey with the department manager. She said that her journey to the GED “world” started at a dinner party for her niece who had just graduated from a local college. The “menu” topic soon changed to academic achievements and she was the only one at the table who neither had a high school diploma nor a GED certificate among her family members who were present. Though she enjoyed her meal, she never liked the conversation and was determined to do something to improve her academic skills. In short, it was time to go back to school. Too old for formal schooling, she opted for a GED class which brought her to the Learning and Career Center’s Adult Literacy GED classes two years ago. Her first year at the evening classes was very challenging as she had to struggle with Social Studies and Mathematics. To add insult to injury, the paper–based testing was no more, and she had to struggle with typing. Thanks to the library’s Mavis Beacon Typing tutorials, her typing speed increased tremendously. According to her, she came to the library around 4:00 p.m. most of the days to practice her typing skills before attending her evening GED classes. She struggled with the Mathematics portion of her classes but persevered. She took the entire battery of tests three times, twice falling short of the grade needed to pass the Mathematics section of the test. Finally, on her third try, she passed the Mathematics part of the test, and thus qualified for her GED certificate. She says that she has a new lease on life and she would make the best out of it academically by pursuing some college courses online. Libraries as they say change lives and this is a classic example of one life which has been changed for the better.

The beginning level computer classes instruct patrons on software programs and the Internet. Patrons are constantly requesting for more classes, especially the popular one-on-one computer sessions with a librarian. In those sessions patrons receive focused attention with resume preparation and job seeking techniques. Patrons who come in daily, request for more one-on-one sessions with a librarian but we do not have enough staff to cope with the computer needs of so many patrons. However, there was a success story from the English as a Second Language classes. Two students who already have masters’ degrees from their non-English speaking countries have obtained jobs in other states and relocated. One obtained a job in Seattle, Washington and the other has been hired by a computer company in Portland, Oregon. Best wishes to them in their new positions.

**Special Collections**

Two staff members managed to move several pieces of furniture to new areas in the department. We were able to install four wooden bookcases along one wall. We received these bookcases from a branch that was closing and were so happy to have them. We moved the Criss-Cross directories to the new bookcases. The most wonderful thing about the bookcases is they have 12 inch shelves so our large Criss Cross directories finally fit and there is no longer the constant dropping and falling of directories that causes damage. We have received much positive feedback from patrons about the change.

The department was approached by the Atlanta History Center with a loan request. The Atlanta History Center will feature a seven month exhibit next year titled “Atlanta in 50 Objects.” They have requested we loan the Margaret Mitchell typewriter for the exhibit. Because they really
want to include the typewriter in the exhibit, they have offered to appraise the typewriter and repair its broken handle as part of the deal. We are waiting to hear from the Library Board of Trustee’s Lawyer about proceeding.

Programs and Outreach
Department staff conducted three “Gone With the Wind” tours for a total of 29 people.

Poetic Voices: Poetry of the Muslim World: The Poetic Voices exhibit will visit four libraries in 2015. Each library will have the exhibit for three months and is expected to present pre-packaged programs and any additional local programs while the exhibit is on display. AFPLS will host the exhibit from September through November 2015. On November 24, 2014, staff met with SouAugusta Khalifa and Abbady Noor from the Atlanta Islamic Speakers Bureau (ISB) to discuss the Poetic Voices grant, our planned programs and any programming or other support that they might be able to provide.

ISB has come up with a series of 12 adult programs to supplement the four grant funded programs. Program topics include Islamic Art, Islamic Calligraphy, Spoken Poetry, Rap, Cooking, Henna Designs, Islamic architecture, Arabic Music, Pakistani Music, Persian Music, African-American Music. The programs and the four grant funded programs will be presented on Tuesdays. In addition, the ISB has six children’s programs and a Debke dance program all to be presented on Saturdays. Staff received a commitment from Dr. Sylviane A. Diouf, Curator of Digital Schomburg, Director of the Lapidus Center for the Historical Analysis of Transatlantic Slavery and Director of The Schomburg-Mellon Humanities Institute at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. Dr. Diouf will be presenting a program on Islam and the Blues on Tuesday November 10th.

The Poetic Voices series is now up to 19 programs, four funded by the grant and 15 developed locally in cooperation with the Atlanta Islamic Speakers Bureau. Flyers have been prepared for each program and are being distributed to interested groups and individuals. In addition, a booklet presenting information on the Poetic Voices grant, exhibit and programs has been prepared and is being distributed.

General Statistics:
Three obituaries were searched for and found for patrons; twenty-six articles were clipped for the Vertical Files; six research request was completed; a volunteer added 197 items to the GEN shelf list; a volunteer added 213 items to the GA shelf list; 646 patrons visited the department this month; 2,798 items were used by patrons in the department this month; and staff answered 534 patron questions this month with 44 of those arriving via the telephone

Youth Services: Children’s Department and Teen Center
The Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System is partnering with the Children’s Museum of Atlanta to support the Spread the Word initiative to help bridge the family literacy gap. Sponsored by PNC Bank and in partnership with the Atlanta Speech School, Spread the Word is a two-year vocabulary and reading program that will reach 6,000 metro Atlanta students and families. Program highlights include free activities and events, such as:
Family Workshops: Children and their parents will participate in a weekly, two-hour program to learn together through story time and science and art activities. Each family will receive language/vocabulary backpacks with books, board games and a preloaded mp3 player for reading.

Professional Development: Coursework and online training for educators and adults working with children in early learning centers throughout the communities.

Toddler Book Club & Mobile Library: Neighborhood families will be invited to attend club meetings, an ongoing Community Story Program, and the Museum will operate a mobile library to reach additional communities.

Museum visits and family festivals: The Museum and community partners will offer free and discounted admission to several community events and family festivals.

The first Spread the Word visit the library will participate with will tentatively be held early October at the Neighborhood Health Center in Vine City’s Boys and Girls Club. Activities will be held monthly for two hour periods at the English Avenue Vine City Communities with the Children's Museum representatives. The Children’s Museum will provide transportation for the library services that will be provided. During the Spread the Word events, the Library System will: offer library card registration/book checkouts during visits; patrons will receive library cards on site; patrons will be allowed to check out 5 books; and the library will provide handouts, give a-ways, bookmarks and information about library resources.

In addition to books and library cards being brought to the English Avenue and Vine City community, a monthly Books and Brunch event will take place at the Central Library. The Children’s Museum will provide brunch and a storyteller each month for participants of the Spread the Word initiative.

Ms. Angiah Davis, Youth Services Librarian participated in Fulton County’s National Night Out as an outreach initiative. National Night Out (NNO) is an annual crime and drug prevention event. Each year the Fulton County Police Department shares information with Fulton County residents about ways to form partnerships to help make their neighborhoods safe places to live, work and play. Staff provided information to attendees, promoted library resources and issued library cards.

Ms. Davis attended the American Library Association Leadership Institute in Itasca, Illinois where she networked with other Youth Services Librarians and coordinators. The Leadership training was designed for leaders as well as potential leaders of the library profession. Participants worked in small groups and attended training classes during the leadership program.

Staff participated in a Learning Express Webinar, August 19th, 2:00 p.m. The webinar taught participants how to use the various resources in this database that provides practice tests, exercises, skill-building courses, testing resources for all ages -- K-12, undergraduate and graduate, vocational and GED and career and employment.

Programs/Outreach
Saturday Afternoon Movie - Families and children enjoyed an afternoon movie entitled “Captain America.” In this movie the Red Skull defeats Captain America in 1941, but the super hero is
thrown into suspended animation. Captain America is revived 50 years later to face the Red Skull one more time. The film is a part of the Every Hero Has a Story Summer Reading Theme provided by Systemwide Youth Services. -- 12 attendees.

A Back to School Storytime – During the storytime, children illustrated their summer vacation on paper and then shared with the group. The Children’s Librarian read two stories. Next, children talked about their hopes for the upcoming school year. Children received supplies to help them through the school year – 14 attendees.

Books Read:
*It’s Back to School We Go! First Day Stories From Around the World* by Ellen Jackson - In this book children learned what the first day of school is like in other countries. They explored countries such as Kazakhstan, Canada, Australia, Japan, China, Peru, Germany, India, Russia, and the United States. Children made contrasts and comparisons.

*Splat and the Cool School Trip* by Rob Scotton - Splat the Cat is so excited when his teacher announces that the class will be going to the zoo. While everyone calls out his or her favorite animal—Elephant! Giraffe! Monkey!—Splat only wants to see the penguins. After all, penguins are perfect; they are black and white, just like Splat! All day long, Splat just can't wait. But when the smallest animal makes the biggest splash and shuts down the penguin exhibit, Splat goes home disappointed and alone. Later he gets a nice surprise.

Systemwide Summer Reading Closing
Winners of the summer reading contest received book bags, hats, and a Kindle Fire, provided by Greg Street and the We Need to Read Foundation. Kindles were provided to top readers at each branch, which allowed participants greater chances of winning; however, a grand prize of an Apple Mac computer was also provided to a lucky top reader from Southwest Branch. Mr. Tariq performed for parents and children. The participants for the closing event were outstanding. One hundred and fifty persons were in attendance.

Storytime with Atlanta Recycling – Cartlanta provided storytime to children and parents. Participants learned about recycling and listened to three stories. The participants enjoyed Cartlanta and Central Library will have them back again.

*What does it mean to be green?* by Rana DiOrio - This colorful, insightful story, demystified for children what it means to be green by helping them to view everyday tasks through an environmentally-friendly lens. The book empowers children to do whatever they can to protect the earth’s precious resources.

*Don’t throw that away?* by Lara Bergen – In this story children followed an eco-conscious super hero as he teaches kids how to recycle and reuse common household items; the six large flaps throughout show that ordinary trash is really a treasure. From turning old clothes into fun costumes or an old box into a brand new car, kids will learn that saving the environment is super cool!
Why should I recycle? by Jen Green - In this story Mr. Jones is a teacher who sets a good example for kids by separating his trash for recycling. When he takes them on a class trip to a recycling plant they learn the value of recycling.

I can save the Earth by Alison Inches - In this story children learned about what they can do to be more eco-friendly. The books in this line (Little Green Books) will be made from recycled materials, and the storylines will cover subjects such as improving the environment, learning about endangered animals, recycling, and much more.

Sunday Afternoon Movie - Parents and children enjoyed an afternoon movie entitled The Amazing Spiderman. In this film once the main character, Peter Parker, is bitten by a genetically altered spider, he gains newfound, spider-like powers and ventures out to solve the mystery of his parent's mysterious death.-- 14 attendees.

City of Fairburn Youth Center – Information about partnering with the library for community events and library cards were provided. --- 15 attendees.

Drop-In Craft – Children learned about quilts and expressed their creativity by making paper quilts. The quilts were easy to make, but had a lot of meaning to the children. Participants decorated the quilts with their own drawings and family information such as birthdays or names.

Teen Programs
Central Cinema – Teens watched a movie entitled The Amazing Spider-man. In this film the main character Peter Parker is bitten by a genetically altered spider, he gains newfound, spider-like powers and ventures out to solve the mystery of his parent's mysterious death.

Teen Advisory Board Interest Group – Teens learned about the Teen Center and the purpose of the Teen Advisory Board. Requirements to join the Teen Advisory Board were also discussed. Teens shared their likes and dislikes of the Teen Center. Participants also worked together on a flyer to help promote the Teen Center to other teens; six attendees.

Basic Research Skills for Teens – Teens learned how to use the library catalog to search for resources in the library. Basic and advanced features of the library catalog, Biography in Context and Literature Resource Center databases were demonstrated. Participants also learned about resources available through the eCampus suite such as the Georgia Driving Tests. Hoopla was also demonstrated. The teens were very interested in downloading music and movies to their mobile devices and the Georgia Driving Tests.

Teen Homeschool Group Visit – Teens from Tamu Sana Kanyama Prep Academy (a homeschool group based in College Park, GA) visited the Central Library. The group received a library tour which included floors one through five. Some of the highlights of the tour included: the first floor where teens visited with Mr. Colin Dube, Programming/Reference Librarian of Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History/Central Library. The students received an overview of Auburn Avenue Research Library and its holdings. The group also had a chance to view the circulation desk and the volunteer services department on the first floor because they need community services hours to graduate.
On the second floor, the Ivan Allen Jr. Department, the group learned about traditional research methods from Douglas McCown, Virtual Reference Coordinator/Librarian II. Teens learned about microfilm and viewed the headlines on their birthdays in the *Atlanta Journal Constitution* on the microfilm machine. The group also learned about print indexes and how to research using this resource. The teens visited the Atlanta Metro Library for Accessible Services (AMLAS) on the fourth floor and learned a little about Braille from Ms. Beverly Williams, Manager of the Georgia Library for Accessible Statewide Services. On the fifth floor, teens received an overview of the Special Collections Department from Ms. Thelma Khatib, Library Associate. Overall, the group was very impressed with the staff and the rich resources of the Central Library. The group looks forward to visiting the library again very soon. There were seven attendees.

Visions Unlimited Program – Non-traditional students received assistance with GED preparation and resumes from Ms. Gwen Sands. Students were referred to library resources such as books, databases, computers, group study rooms as needed. This month 60 students received assistance.

**Cleveland Avenue**

August was a very busy month with students returning to school and summer reading activities coming to a close. The Fulton County Schools hosted a back to school health and resource fair at the Oak Hill Child, Adolescent and Family Center. As a community partner, staff were invited to participate. It was a great opportunity to conduct a library card drive and inform the public about the different resources the library has available. The staff registered 52 people for library cards and talked to approximately 170 people about library resources. Staff also provided fliers and informational handouts. Everyone was encouraged to visit the library and meet the staff.

The children’s librarian was invited to a back to school event at the New Life Tabernacle Church. She registered a few people for library cards and was able to provide them with information about library resources. She talked to 74 people about the different resources available at the library and encouraged them to visit the library.
A STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) display was created to promote and encourage young reader’s interest in science.
The children’s librarian and branch manager conducted library card drives and shared information about the library resources at outreach locations.

Volunteer Lisa Ingram conducted a jewelry making class and the Quilters of Soul quilting group is preparing for their 7th annual quilting exhibit to be held at the branch in September.

**College Park**

The month of August was very busy and productive. The children started back to school and the library was filled with many children and their parents after school. The branch manager and children’s librarian attended outreach events in the community and at local schools. Staff also met with various community and public officials to make sure the library is very visible on Main Street.
Staff hosted numerous programs for children and adults during the month of August. Well Care Health Solutions provided a seminar for senior adults about the various Medicare and Medicaid options. The branch participated in the city of College Park’s National Night Out event promoting Library services, materials and programs.

**Dogwood**

The highlight for the month of August was the completion of the Summer Reading Program and the compilation of statistics thereafter. The grand finale was such a huge success and staff members were very proud of the participants.

The Friends of Dogwood Library organized a successful book sale which began August 26th. The Dogwood Library staff, together with staff of the Northwest Library at Scott’s Crossing, participated in the West Fulton Alumni Community Day event on Saturday, August 15th, 2015. Important information regarding the September library card sign-up and fall programs were distributed at the community event.

The Fulton Fresh Mobile Farmer’s Market program sponsored by the Fulton County Cooperative Extension Service was held at the Dogwood Library on Thursdays, August 6th and August 20th with several adults and seniors at the program. Participants were served fresh vegetables and given a bag each of fresh vegetables.

**East Atlanta**

The East Atlanta Branch wrapped up the summer reading program with a finale celebration. Children and teens who met their reading goal were invited to throw a pie at Marlan Brinkley, the library’s Branch Manager. Staff also began prepping for Library Card Sign-Up Month by creating posters, banners, reaching out to local schools and non-profits that serve youth. Branch librarians in coordination with other librarians throughout the Library System, submitted an application to Best Buy, as part of the Best Buy Teen Tech Center Grant. They received a tremendous amount of support from local government agencies, the Library Foundation, and the library’s administrative team; including the Interim Director and Interim Branch Group Managers.

The children’s librarian attended the 3rd Annual Fulton County Department of Family and Children’s Services Fatherhood Conference to distribute Books for Babies, library cards, and program brochures.

The branch hosted several events for the adults and seniors in the community. The DeKalb County Board of Health offered free and anonymous HIV testing.

We are excited to report that Oscar Gittemeier, children’s librarian, was accepted into the Georgia Public Library Service’s 2015 PINNACLE Leadership Institute. We owe a special thanks to Ms. Holloman, Interim Director, for her letter of support.
East Point

August was a month that we were able to recover from the fast pace of Summer reading, however just as the kids were returning to school we were returning to school to renew our partnerships with the different media specialist and teachers in the schools that we serve.

Branch staff attended many back to school events throughout the month of August highlighting the services offered.

East Roswell

August was a fast-paced month of endings and new beginnings. Back-to-school activities at the library included the final gathering of summer reading logs and last minute attempts to find required summer reading books for school coursework. As staff wrapped up the 2015 summer programs and summer reading program, they began planning for the new school year. Staff attended the open houses at River Eves Elementary School, Esther Jackson Elementary School, Holcomb Bridge Middle School, and Centennial High School. Staff also attended Hillside Elementary School’s Back-to-School Bash. At each open house, we set up an origami craft and drawing station along with library informational handouts. Children had the choice to make an origami dog and/or a cat. They also were encouraged to write their name on an art link chain which was displayed in the children’s room. Staff signed up a total of 112 new users over the three day period.

Mr. Richard Anderson, Fulton County Manager, dropped by for a visit on Friday, August 14. Staff enjoyed chatting with him and hearing about his plans.

Alabama author, Janice Singleton visited the branch on August 8th for an autograph session of her new book *Caught: From Correctional Officer to a Federal Inmate*.

Local author, Betty Brown discussed her book, *There and Back: An Elder’s Solo Global Pilgrimage*, where she talked about her experiences traveling the world and her fascinating observations.

ESL Conversation classes began on Thursday, August 20th with local volunteer, Terry McManus.

Fairburn

Fairburn staff spent August winding down from the busy summer months of June and July. The staff awarded the Summer Reading prize provided by V-103 Radio to Emma Cox, a local homeschooled 7-year old. Staff provided prizes consisting of lunch bags and thumb drives for other summer reading program participants.

The Branch Manager purchased additional furniture thanks to the extra funds provided for their purchase. Staff selected sofas and chairs for the children’s area and a bench for the computer waiting area.
Staff enjoyed working at the Northwest Branch on their rotational Sundays. The new technology and attractive facility make for a nice work experience. Staff are preparing for the Fairburn Festival in early October.

An Introduction to Computers class was offered to patrons in August. The classes concentrated on teaching patrons how to use a mouse, the scope of the internet, the databases that are available on the library website and the basics of Microsoft Word.

Patron, Dow Thompson still conducts a Tai Chi session every Tuesday at 4pm. He keeps a steady class size of 4 to 6 interested participants.

**Georgia Hill**

Twenty-seven teachers and 11 students from the New Schools of Carver applied for library cards. Prize registration slips for the branch wide Summer Reading Program drawing totals were: Babies 2, Children 81, and Teens 2. Noah Bonner was the Kindle Fire Grand Prize Winner. Staff also pulled names for individual prizes. Ten kids were given Super Hero Tote Bags that were stuffed with goodies. Summer camp leaders who were instrumental in making sure their kids read and completed reading logs, delivered tote bags to the winners.

Creative writing classes will be offered at the branch every third Friday from 4:00pm to 5:30pm starting in September thru December. Award Winning Writer and Teaching Artist Sandra Hughes will be the instructor. Ms. Hughes was just recently awarded the 2015 Community Service Award, City of Atlanta, by Mayor Kasim Reed.

**Hapeville**

August was a quiet month for Youth Services at the Hapeville Branch. Staff performed Outreach by contacting several daycare centers and Hapeville elementary schools to promote Library Card Signup in September. Several Kindergarten teachers scheduled dates for their classes to do library field trips and tour the branch.

A new board in the Children’s Area, promotes books in an attractive and cheerful manner to encourage children to check out materials.

**Kirkwood**

Kirkwood staff assisted with a back to school outreach event at Greenbriar Mall. Both librarians gave quick tutorials on gaining access to the libraries home page, locating databases, such as Bookflix and Tutor.com and issuing new library cards.

Long time patrons, Nicolas and Carrie Clark both gained employment as a direct result of the one-on-one assistance they received from the Resume Help workshop offered at the branch. The workshop is by appointment only and is facilitated by library staff.
Martin Luther King, Jr.

Summer reading ended with over 20 prize winners and a number of weekly readers who also won special prizes. Prizes ranged from a Kindle Fire donated by V103 Radio and the Greg Street Foundation, Atlanta-Fulton County Library System logo incentives, restaurant coupons, literacy centered gift cards and a host of popular book titles for all ages. With school back in session, staff kicked off back to school with Lingual Kids who hosted a bilingual Spanish and Mandarin storytime program. Expert storyteller, Terra Trofort read to a group of enthusiastic preschool students from Kids Academy and a few homeschoolers who travelled across town just for the bilingual storytime experience.

Children and parents both enjoyed showing off their crafty skills by participating in the library’s Create a Craft and Something Beautiful Too art décor workshops. Each craft derived from the popular book titles “Caps for Sale” by Esphyr Slobodkina and “Something Beautiful” by well-known author Sharon Dennis Wyeth. Young patrons created colorful paper flowers to help beautify their neighborhood, and caps of courage which each child wore with pride.

Adult patrons enjoyed a great cardio workout at their library with expert wellness Yoga Leader, Josie Bailey. Patrons were taught the appropriate way to breathe, bend and stretch while performing Yoga positions which promote healthy bodies and longevity. Other adult programming consisted of workshops on how to create outstanding newsletters and announcements to promote businesses.

Professional development has truly been at its highest with the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Branch library staff. This month Mr. Uche’ Ohia attended the B4 Early Literacy Workshop at The Macon Marriott City Center organized by the Georgia Public Library Service. Marcy Hemphill, Library Assistant Senior, attended a much needed Inter-Library Loan training. Going in to training with the basic knowledge of the inter-library loan process, Marcy expressed how beneficial the training was and how she learned a lot more about the process. Her training will prove beneficial to the services offered at the branch.

In the attempt to maintain a welcoming environment for our community patrons and to enhance the overall look of the library, new color coordinated book trucks, step stools, book ends and a few other cosmetic touches were ordered.

Mechanicsville

The month began with meeting school personnel to schedule school visits, branch program planning, and solidifying partnerships with various agencies in which the Mechanicsville Branch will work closely beginning this fall. A promising, exciting, resourceful year is expected due to the many positive changes happening within the community. Additional housing in the community has brought in diverse new neighbors and library patrons. The existing community stakeholders have formed various Turner Field coalitions and are meeting, expressing concerns, hoping not to be left out of the new transition once the stadium is gone.

New preschools were found in addition to the schools and preschools, the branch currently serves.
One pre-school new to the area is Carol’s Daughter Learning Center. A partnership was formed, and a deposit of books was delivered along with library card applications for the students and teachers at the facility.

Funding Your College Education Without Breaking the Bank was a very successful program with a panel discussion with the Foundation Center, and a United Negro College Fund representative. Each explained or expanded on financial aid resources for the potential college seeker from the undergraduate to graduate level. Twenty-seven people attended the workshop with the bulk of the high school seniors coming from Benjamin E Mays High School.

Staff was excited to announce that we have entered a unique partnership with the Romae T. Powell Juvenile Court by forming a Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group. The kickoff was held Thursday, August 13, at the Mechanicsville Branch. The uniqueness of this support group is that it targets grandparents who have gained custody of their grandchildren through the juvenile court as a result of delinquency or deprivation. Ms. Gayle Hunter-Holloman, Interim Library Director, and Judge Renata Turner both expressed their desire to form a support system along with a resource center to assist and/or encourage grandparents to share their issues and concerns among others who are experiencing similar situations. Each participant expressed their delight in the formation of the partnership. The Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group will serve as the initial pilot group, forming guidelines for similar support groups at all Atlanta-Fulton Public libraries, targeting specific concerns throughout Fulton County. Each meeting will have special speakers, facilitators, and/or organizations addressing various concerns of the participants.

The branch manager and children’s librarian due to their former involvement with Primetime Family Literacy Program and the receipt of Federal dollars, were asked to attend a meeting in regard to Title V1 Compliance with a representative from the Audit Department with Fulton County. Also in attendance at this meeting were Ms. Hunter-Holloman and Mr. Ed Robinson.

**Milton**

Each and every day, newcomers continue to stream into the Milton Library with warmhearted thoughts about the design and collections. Circulation of materials, children’s activities, volunteer coordination, study room usage and meeting room inquiries and reservations have filled the month of August, keeping staff quite busy. The new technology is well received by patrons.

Staff participated in a library card drive at the Birmingham Falls Elementary School’s open house and Read to Bosco, the therapy dog, was held in the story time barn. Staff also hosted a Bootcamp workout with Tina McClaire, MS, CPT. A full body workout and strength training exercise was included in the program.

Patrons also welcomed the Feng Shui program taught by Rochel Parker. She taught participants how the environment directly affects them and how they can change their living environments to better support themselves.
Circulation is quite active at the library and staff worked to streamline and improve processes for better work flow.

**Northeast Spruill Oaks**

August was a busy month at the Northeast Library and staff spent time focused on clearing the branch of weeded items. The Friday morning Yoga and Meditation class was a hit with attendees and the Johns Creek Poetry Group continued to meet and use Library resources. The teens were actively making their way through their summer reading lists and preparing for various standardized tests.

We continue to receive amazing free programming via our partnerships with Applerouth Tutoring and also from ranking officers in Toastmasters International. Teen volunteers were lined up to host a STEM program for children and they are now offering monthly Spanish language instruction for young patrons. Staff also offered a College Entrance Essay Writing workshop for teens which was well received. In addition, our library book club continues to be popular, along with Line Dancing with Jean Chen which has 34 regular participants.

**Northside**

This is the month where our focus typically shifts from summer reading activities to back to school. We have had an intense month of shelving all of the returned materials checked out during summer reading.

Toddler story time on the 12th of the month represented the final story time for the summer. The children’s librarian concluded the summer session by reviewing previous themes including the beach, going to the zoo, insects, and the garden. Nursery rhymes and songs were performed. A total of 50 children and adults attended.

Betty Ann Wylie came as the final performer sponsored by Northside’s Friend’s Group. Betty Ann focused her story telling on the theme “Use your Imagination” accompanied with a wrapped gift box and a question mark on the lid. She had the children use context clues to guess the contents of her box. There were a total of 29 participants.

The Friends of the Northside Library conducted their monthly book sale and it was as successful as always. Staff members appreciate their support, especially at this time of year. We have just concluded Summer Reading and enjoyed the 5 different Summer Reading programs that the Friends group funded for children.

We had volunteers from the Georgia Tech community service project do volunteer work at the branch on August 29th. Five students helped staff with several different projects.
Northwest

August was the first full month that we were open and it was a very busy month. We offered programs for all ages and saw an increase in the use of the meeting rooms and study rooms. Many existing patrons are still coming in along with many new patrons and visitors. They expressed that they leave the library feeling they had a positive experience.

Children had many fun sessions this month including a craft program from the Mayor’s Art Council and a program on water conservation presented by the City of Atlanta.

The last session of Fulton Fresh Farmer’s Market was held on August 12\textsuperscript{th} and food samples and a bag of vegetables were given to each participant.

Thanks to Rosie Meadows, West End Library Branch Manager, who wrote a grant for the Laughter Yoga program with Josie Bailey. Since she had originally scheduled programs for the Perry Homes and the Bowen/Bankhead branches, the Northwest staff offered a program to the local senior facility, The Manor at Scotts Crossing. There were 12 ladies who got to laugh it up at the session offered at the Manor on August 20\textsuperscript{th} and several of them came to the session on the 27\textsuperscript{th} that was offered at the branch. In addition to that program, the library staff attended two functions where they signed people up for library cards: the West Fulton Community Day, and the Fulton Fresh Finale.

There were over 400 people who used the meeting and study rooms in August. Patrons are loving the new branch and the meeting and public spaces.

Ocee

August was an exciting and busy month at Ocee. The branch continued to be one of those locations that consistently experiences high circulation. Now that the new Alpharetta and Milton libraries have opened, circulation leveled off in August.

August at the branch was highlighted with the honor to have the Ocee Library Nature Trail created as an Eagle Scout project by Michael Horton, son of one of our dedicated Friends, Aileen Horton. The project features a walking trail behind the northeastern parking lot and library and has two benches which were also created by an Eagle Scout for his project.

Our fall program lineup includes a wide variety of programs ranging from art to tutoring for both children and teens, along with frequent library card registration drives. In August, we reached out to all 3 high schools and all 3 middle schools to introduce ourselves and ask about partnering up for programs in the future.

During the month of August, the Young Adult Department had its test drive of its new Teen Advisory Board (TAB) with 11 teens meeting to discuss the purpose and plan for the TAB. Our teen librarian and the teens talked about ways to make the Teen Space personalized to the teens of Johns Creek, and their ideas were great and impressive. The teens also wanted to be more involved with the planning and publicizing of the events happening in the library. Each member
spoke up about something they were passionate about, and it seems that each will continue to
attend the meetings.

Volunteers continue to make our ordinary public library extraordinary. Along with their
assistance with re-shelving materials, volunteers help us provide excellent service to young
patrons with youth tutoring programs in subjects such as reading and math, chess, and art
lessons. The teen volunteers assist with technology training for children. Adult volunteers also
provide free programs such as Tai Chi, yoga, and ESL.

**Palmetto**

This month, the library extended an invitation to neighborhood childcare centers to set up
information tables at the library. The invitation allows local businesses to feel a sense of
investment in the library and exposes patrons to the library as a resource for a wealth of
community services. The Right Start Early Learning Center set up a table on August 29th in
conjunction with a Friends of the Palmetto Library book sale, focused on children’s literature.

Two children’s films were shown this month as part of the Little Read Barn Theater. On August
8th, two children watched *Frozen* and on August 15th, thirteen children watched *The Croods*.
Refreshments were served after each film.

Twenty-eight were in attendance for the Palmetto Library: Art and Architecture program held on
August 27th. Architect, Greg Walker, of Houser Walker Architecture and artist Andrew
Crawford, of Andrew T. Crawford Ironworks, spoke to adults and children about the design and
building process for both the building and artwork (steel tractor sculpture). Fifteen children and
parents participated in a wire sculpting workshop immediately following the discussion. Fulton
County Arts Council served as the announcer during the program and also provided
refreshments.

**Peachtree**

In terms of programming, the library was fortunate enough to have three separate programs that
are non-traditional medicine based come together. A “gentle-yoga” program partnered with a
mediation program to provide Monday morning patrons in Midtown a 2-for-1 opportunity. In
addition, a local chiropractic office has offered to do free screening for those participants at the
end of the duel program. This has given the branch the ability to offer a program that provides
yoga/mediation/chiropractic-services all together in one convenient package.

The new teen services librarian at Peachtree has been pulling together various resources to re-
kindle the teen enthusiasm at the branch. In September, the library should be seeing the fruits of
this hard labor.

**Ponce de Leon**

The Summer Reading Program ended on August 1. Thanks to the generosity of our Friends of
the Ponce Library, we awarded prizes to several of the adults that participated. A couple of them
said that they had never won anything before. Several local restaurants also donated coupons for
free children’s meals for kids that read ten books. That was a wonderful incentive and kids loved
getting those. We ended the summer with our Ponce Annual Spelling Bee, a fun tradition to wrap
up the Summer Reading Program. This year’s theme was Every Hero Has a Story. All the words were related to superheroes, which made for a fun time. Some participants even came dressed up as their favorite superhero!

The book club met in August to discuss *Where’d You Go Bernadette* by Maria Semple. It was a fun, light book to finish off the summer.

**Roswell**

Winding down from a very busy summer children, teens, and adults brought in their last reading logs for the summer reading program. With school starting, late afternoons, evenings and weekends became even busier as classes began. With the opening of the Milton and Alpharetta libraries the number of in transit items we receive has increased. One morning we received thirteen bins from Milton alone.

Patrons read and submitted 75 book reviews in this year’s adult summer reading program. Special thanks to the Friends of the Roswell Library for the purchase of gift cards for three lucky participants.

The highly successful Zumba class has returned to the library. The classes are scheduled on Thursday mornings and will run through September. Participants are extremely pleased that we offer this class and with Zumba Instructor, Nicole Gordon.

A patron was renewing a book (on her card) for her husband who is dyslexic. She explained that her husband was very reluctant to get a library card because reading was such a challenge for him with his disability. He had never had a library card before they moved to Fulton County when the wife had encouraged him to “try” reading again. The husband took that first step and the wife reported that although he reads slowly, her husband is very much making progress. Not only that, but she said that her husband’s vocabulary has also noticeably increased. She spoke of how very proud she was of him, how much he had branched out in learning. She said that she always thought of her husband as a “diamond in the rough”, but still is surprised by some of the subject matters in which he has shown new interest. Another life changed – all because of a local library!

**Sandy Springs**

It was a busy and fun August at the Sandy Springs Library. We offered 40 programs which drew 381 attendees. Thanks to the generosity of local businesses, our Friends group and local partners, we awarded many summer reading prizes for all ages, including Kindle Fires, numerous food coupons at local restaurants and tickets and passes for local theatres, among other goodies. The branch received a wonderful donation of Spanish language materials from the Wolf Creek Branch. We are excitedly awaiting installation of our self-check machine.

Prizes from local sponsors were awarded to 21 branch winners for the children’s summer reading program. Prizes included: classes at Abernathy Arts Center and Young Chef’s Academy, tickets to Alliance theatre, gift certificates to Brilliant Sky Toys & Books, as well as passes to Brunswick Bowling of Roswell, The Center for Puppetry Arts and Chattahoochee Nature Center.
In addition, the Sandy Springs Society donated funds for us to purchase new children’s materials and we received a beautiful donation to the children’s department of a small table and chairs with artwork on it by the students of Springmont Montessori School.

We offered a number of well attended teen programs including hosting a Teen Digital Photography Contest, Teen Writing Contest and AP Calculus, Statistics, Biology and Chemistry programs hosted by C2 Education and a SAT/ACT Preparation Workshop hosted by Kaplan Education Services.

34 programs were offered in August 2015 with a total of 289 attendees.

Our adult summer reading program was very popular. The Friends of the Sandy Springs Library provided 2 Kindle Fire HD7 tablets for our branch winners Kathy Ray and James Rosenkrantz. Patrons who did not receive top prizes were given a tote bag and food coupons.

Adult Reference Librarian, Ruby Allen provided assistance in reserving books and providing book reviews for The Invention of Wings by Sue Kidd, the book selected for the Campbell Stone Book. In addition, our ESL classes taught by Francine Cadden and our Conversation English classes taught by David Chestnut and Laura Powell, continue to be very popular and Tai Chi, taught by Tai Chi Master Taian Wang and Gentle Yoga, taught by Gail Fore had great attendance.

Southwest

Adults in the Southwest Library’s community had several reasons for making the library a destination. Eighty patrons visited the library to participate in interesting book discussions and a mini film festival. Some of the much sought after and hard to find movies were put together and shown weekly under the name of the Sankofa Film Festival. The movies, made available from the AARL’s collection, highlighted a familiar theme of life in America for people of color. It touched on a number of accomplishments in the African civilization and the topic of color and race relations around the world.

Staff partnered with the organization known as Onyxcon and Joseph Wheeler to bring a discussion on science fiction to the library. Onyxcon’s annual event celebrates the popular arts with an emphasis on the African Diaspora, comic books and characters, and it has a Dragon Con type following on the rise. Absent of people in hero-like costumes, the science fiction discussion held at the library attracted two pop culture icons: former Motown star, Donnie and Professor Griff, of the hip hop group, Public Enemy.

Sulonda Smith has written a book entitled, What Women Absolutely Must Know About Men and she hosted a very lively discussion.

Children’s programs have been one of the pillars of library activities. Along with the excitement about craft programs hosted by the children’s librarian, the spotlight shone brightly on two community heroes: Sergeant Edwards and Deputy Price. Both returned to the library to read several books to children. The children were introduced to books with large, colorful pictures,
few words, and simple story lines. They created crafts with Legos, and songs and had fun with a
simple yoga stretch.

**Stewart-Lakewood**

The Stewart-Lakewood Library continues to serve patrons as staff members gear up for the
transition to the new Metropolitan Library. Items continue to be weeded, packed, sent to surplus
and thrown out as we try to clear out of the current building. Programs to be published in the Fall
Access have been created with the new location in mind and with the goal being to offer more in
the way of computer literacy, training on eCampus resources, job search resources and also just
some fun events and activities that the new location will enable staff to offer.

In preparation for the major transition, the Branch Manager participated in several community
meetings to engage the public, answer questions about the new library and generate excitement
over what the new high-tech library space will mean to the surrounding neighborhoods. On
August 10 she spoke to 50 members of the NPU-X about the new library and answered questions
related to meeting spaces, public art and library hours. A similar Q&A was held on August 11 at
the Capital View Manor Neighborhood Association Meeting. In general, enthusiasm for the
much anticipated opening of the new library is very high!

**Thomasville Heights**

The Summer Reading Program ended with electrifying interactive educational and entertaining
activities. School is back in session where the evenings are fully occupied with library patrons
utilizing computers and the youth taking advantage of completing homework assignments.

Staff attended Atlanta Youth Academy’s Open House on August 13, to promote library services,
Books for Babies, and the online library card application.

Staff hosted a back to school round up on Saturday August 8, donating pencils, ink pens, wide
and college ruled notebook paper, pencil sharpeners, glue, pencil pouches and composition
notebooks to 27 teens and 21 juveniles. Donations were provided by staff and library patron Ms.
Smith.

Thomasville Heights Boys’ and Girls’ Club staff visited the branch to search the collection and
circulate library materials to take to the center to share. The more and more circulated items are
credited to

The branch featured back to school book and non-book displays. The displays included: Spoken
word, books on tape, popular movies, GED on DVD, college resources; materials were selected
to inform patrons of the different types of resources the library has to offer.

**Washington Park**

It was a great month at the Washington Park Library. The Summer Reading Program ended with
a winner for the Kindle Fire donated by the Greg Street Foundation and V-103 Radio, Samara
Tala Tillman, a kindergartener, who read 180 books during the Summer Reading Program!
Staff participated in the “Police in the Park” event at the branch. A table was set up to draw potential library users. The library table was visited by many families and those wanting library cards. Staff was ecstatic to be a part of that community event.

**West End**

It was a busy month at the West End Library and staff focused on programming and outreach. Staff offered an “All about Manners” storytime series where the four books read centered on the theme of manners. Next, the children were given some scenarios in which they had to show how they would behave.

For adults, Laughter Yoga offered a combination of low-stress exercise and laughter to promote mental and physical health and wellness. Participants expressed how much they enjoyed the deep breathing and relaxation piece of the program and vowed to at least continue the deep breathing. The one thing the group agreed that was learned in the program was that healing comes through breathing.

The book club met to discuss *And Sometimes I wonder About You* by Walter Mosley. This book is the fifth Leonid McGill novel. In this novel Leonid finds himself in an unusual pickle of trying to balance his cases with his chaotic person life. Walter Mosley is the group’s favorite author and they have read all his works. The discussion was very lively and interesting. Each member had a character they liked or did not like and were very vocal about their opinions of that character.

**Wolf Creek**

In the month of August, the Wolf Creek Library staff has been preparing for upcoming fall programs and the branch’s one year anniversary since the grand opening. The library has had a fantastic 1st year with the offerings of many outstanding children’s and adult programs with substantial attendance. We have also experienced an overwhelming response to the usage of our meeting, music and study rooms from patrons and public officials alike. We could not be more pleased with our success and generosity of our patrons and the Wolf Creek community.

The SAT is changing in March 2016. On Saturday, August 22 there was a teen program called “Understanding the New SAT: 3 Essential New Strategies to Ace the New Test”. The teens were given information about the new changes and ways to decide which test version would be best for their personality.

**Strengthening Families and Communities Coalition (SFCC)** - The SFCC of Atlanta brought a diverse panel of community leaders from judicial, legal and law enforcement agencies to discuss the critical issues that affect youth, with emphasis on Black and Latino males.

**eCampus Initiative**

On August 1st, the eCampus coordinator participated in the Fulton County School System’s Back to School Health and Resource Fair at Lake Forest Elementary School. The event was heavily attended by the surrounding Hispanic community. The eCampus resources that are offered in Spanish were provided and emphasis was placed on them.
On August 2nd Commissioner Arrington hosted a Back to School Event at the Wolf Creek Amphitheater. It was attended by over 400 people. Library staff provided eCampus materials for attendees and library card sign up was also offered as a service to families.

On August 8th eCampus participated in the Fulton County Schools’ Back to School Health and Resource Fair at Oak Hill Elementary School. The event was attended by more than 250 people. There were 50 persons who signed up for a library card.

The Fulton County Office of External Affairs requested an eCampus overview to provide information on grant resources for selected attendees. The event was held on August 11th at the Oak Hill facility. Fifteen attendees received library cards.

On August 17th the eCampus Coordinator served as a panelist for a program hosted at the Mechanicsville Library called “Funding Your College Education”. The program consisted of collaborative resources from the AFPLS, the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) and the Foundation Center.

On August 27th the Let’s Roll program resumed in partnership with the Fulton County Police Department. The program was held at the Northwest Branch Library.

eCampus staff participated in the Fulton County New Hire Orientation on August 12th and August 26th. Forty employees received an overview of library services, a demonstration of eCampus and new library cards in collaboration with the Fulton County Government Personnel Department.

**Public Relations & Marketing**

The grand opening of the new Alpharetta Library continued to garner publicity, the article, “Alpharetta Library Opens,” ran in the *Milton Herald* on August 3.

The August 12 issue of the *South Fulton Neighbor* ran the article, “Novel Approach, OnyxCon Expands its Footprint at South Fulton Arts Center,” the comic book art convention which included a panel discussion about turning comics into animation and video games at the Southwest Branch.

The August 20 issue of *The Atlanta Voice* ran information in its “Metro Board” section on several programs during the month of September happening at the Library System including the Auburn Avenue Research Library’s Sankofa Film Festival Finale at the Hammonds House Museum, as well as the film *Looking for Langston*; and the Buckhead Branch’s programs, Teen Photography Contest and An Afternoon of Jazz with Rosemary Rainey and John Robertson.

The August 19 issue of the *South Fulton Neighbor* ran a blurb and photos of the National Night Out event in College Park, which included participation from Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System librarians and staff.

The August 26 issue of the *North Fulton Neighbor* ran the article, “North Fulton Library Branches Offer Adventure Beyond Books,” detailing all of the exceptional free programs offered in the North Fulton area branches.

The September 2 issue of the *Milton Herald* ran the article, “County Deeds Former Library Property to Alpharetta,” about the former Alpharetta Library property. The new library opened in the City Center on July 30. This information also ran in the September 4 issue of the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and the September 4 issue of the #One Fulton Newsletter.

The *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*’s Metro Section continued to feature a variety of programs and events at many of our library locations. Highlights during the month, other than those already listed above, include:

- “English as a Second Language,” Alpharetta Branch, August 16
- “Financial Awareness: Understanding Your 401K,” Wolf Creek Branch, August 18
- “Teen Advisory Board Interest Group,” Central Library, August 18
- “Let’s Roll! Prepare for Georgia’s Driving Test,” Northwest Branch at Scotts Crossing, August 18
- “Managing Healthcare Expenses,” Sandy Springs Branch, August 20
- “PSAT Practice,” Ocee Branch, August 21
- “Learn the Game of Chess,” East Point Branch, August 25
- “Microsoft Office Training/Excel,” Ocee Branch, August 26
- “Another Level Math and Reading Tutoring,” Adams Park Branch, August 26
- “Calling All Teens: Writers Workshop,” Southwest Branch, August 27
- “Kids Origami Club,” Peachtree Branch, August 27
- “Career Series: So You Want to be a ?” Central Library, August 28
- “Read to Win,” Mechanicsville Branch, August 28
- “Open Mic,” Southwest Branch, August 26
- “Write a Love Note to Grandpa and Grandma,” Peachtree Branch, September

**SOCIAL MEDIA STATS – AUGUST 2015**

**FACEBOOK:**
- Total Posts: 48
- Post Likes: 185
- Comments: 15
- Post Shares: 22
- Total Fans: 3139

**TWITTER:**
- Total Posts: 31
- Mentions: 45
- Retweets: 35
- Favorites: 46
- Followers: 464
Volunteer Services

General Overview: Volunteer Services supported the branch staff, Friends groups, and Summer Reading Program volunteers. The Office of Volunteer Services recorded 5,379 hours performed at 33 locations, including 7 departments at Central, by a total of 506 volunteers and 80 were new volunteers to the Library.

The top three volunteers of the month served over 100 hours each and included Emmett Brantley who has served six months at the Dogwood Library and Carol Harrison and Mary Mitchell who have each served for 7 years with the Friends of the Roswell Library. The Friends of the Central Atlanta Library participated in a Back to School Fair to share information about how to support local libraries through Friends groups. The Friends of the Dogwood Library attended a community vendor event to recruit support and kicked off a month long book sale to encourage foot traffic in the branch. We were able to connect a local high school student’s book drive donations to the Friends of the East Roswell Library. The Friends of the Northside Library held a successful three day book sale and donated funds for several needed repairs at the branch. The Friends of the Northwest Library formed, elected officers, and held two organizational meetings including a presentation by the volunteer services manager.

The Friends of the Ocee Library assisted with an Eagle Scout project to build a walking trail and two benches outside the Ocee Library. The Friends of the Palmetto Library were highlighted on the AFPLS Facebook page and recruited new volunteers for their weekly book store hours. Brainstorming ideas for growing the Friends of the Peachtree Library were shared with the branch manager. The Friends of the Roswell Library held a successful four day indoor book sale and met with the branch manager and branch group manager regarding funding landscaping projects. The Friends of the Stewart-Lakewood Library hosted another interest meeting to secure new leadership and invited the branch manager to speak at the neighborhood association about volunteer needs. Friends’ guidelines were revised and shared at an interest meeting for the Friends of the Wolf Creek Library with two new community members. The State report on Friends groups was submitted confirming 23 active groups.

The volunteer services manager was able to present certificates and letters of appreciation to the teens who completed the Southwest Library’s summer teen program at their closing graduation ceremony. The teens submitted letters to the library explaining what they learned through the volunteer program and they are looking forward to additional opportunities next summer. Parents who attended the ceremony were truly touched by their children’s volunteer experience. One of the few male participants and the youngest volunteer stated, “Teen Tuesday volunteering has done a lot for me for the past few weeks of participating in it. The level of experience I’ve gained from doing these activities around the library is phenomenal. I know more about the Dewey Decimal Classification System, how to sort books into fiction, non-fiction, and picture book sections, and other techniques that will help me strive in the future. However, experience is not
the only thing I’ve obtained while participating in this program. I have created a strong bond with the people that enjoy Teen Tuesday as much as I do. They are just as smart, friendly, funny, and talented as me; those are the type of people I wish to be around.”

Georgia State University students volunteered across Atlanta, including 14 students at the Central Library and 180 additional students serving at Aniz, Kwanza Hall’s office, Big Bethel AME Church, Salvation Army, Ahimsa House, Truly Living Well, Apex Museum, and SafeHouse Outreach. Our volunteers helped sort and shelve items in the Central Library’s Children’s Department; shelved periodicals in Ivan Allen Research Department, counted over 13,000 volumes in Special Collections, moved four pallets of weeded materials for Better World Books, and created 101 Books for Babies packets. Georgia Institute of Technology students filed off of the buses early on a Saturday morning to volunteer with shelving needs before opening at the Buckhead and Northside libraries.

After meeting with branch services, all branches were notified to no longer utilize volunteers in the holds process. Training materials were shared for the new volunteer orientations held at the Milton Library. The volunteer coordinator was able to present volunteer information to hundreds of Georgia Institute of Technology students at their annual MOVE Volunteer Fair. Other recruitment efforts included posting a flyer in the Central Library lobby, reaching out to local high school counselors, and revising postings with Spelman College and Volunteer Match. Database updates were made to include missing emails, volunteer type, and mandates. Staff held a phone conference with Fairburn Library staff to review court required service documentation procedures to ensure consistency across the branches. Staff called and emailed volunteer liaisons to ensure only a pen is used on all documentation because several locations’ volunteer hours were illegible because volunteers started using pencils. Support was also provided at the East Roswell Library regarding dismissing volunteers who were unable to complete assignments.

Staff also worked with six branches and two departments at Central to review eight AARP Foundation Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) participants. Participants assist with shelving, finding books on the missing list, and with setting up the meeting room for a program. Participants learn the Dewey Decimal System and strengthen organizational skills. With the upcoming closing of Stewart-Lakewood, their AARP volunteer was moved and received additional orientation at the West End Library.

The Books for Babies program materials were distributed to 41 families this month. Our staff presented volunteer information and Books for Babies packets at Zoo Atlanta during the Fulton County resident free Sunday with Outreach Services, at the Army Reserve’s 335th Signal Command for the 982nd Signal Battalion Family Saturday with the East Point children’s librarian, and at the Department of Family and Children Services’ Fatherhood Training with the East Atlanta children’s librarian. Staff also presented the Books for Babies program at the youth services meeting and shared 170 English and 45 Spanish packets with 20 branches to increase distribution across the county. The volunteer services manager participated in the Summer Reading Program closing ceremony to greet volunteers and staff, as well as the Council of Volunteer Administrators of Atlanta’s strategic planning meeting.
Volunteer services staff screened and placed 33 teenagers, 43 adults, 22 court-required volunteers, 1 AARP volunteer, 14 National Charity League volunteers, and 3 groups in August. Staff also completed 21 volunteer letters to verify service hours and assisted 7 community members with finding alternative community service locations.
# Monthly Financial Report - Total Library

## As August 31, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>2015 Budget</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>2015 YTD</th>
<th>2015 YTD</th>
<th>2015 YTD</th>
<th>2015 YTD</th>
<th>Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>Expenditures</td>
<td>Encumbrances</td>
<td>Committed</td>
<td>% Committed</td>
<td>Balance</td>
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<tr>
<td>REG SALARY</td>
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<td>927,911</td>
<td>7,711,841</td>
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<td>7,711,841</td>
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<td>7,263,260</td>
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<tr>
<td>PART TIME SALARY</td>
<td>1,644,350</td>
<td>101,820</td>
<td>478,373</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>478,373</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>1,165,977</td>
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<tr>
<td>BENEFITS</td>
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<td>461,999</td>
<td>3,890,532</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3,890,532</td>
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<td>3,590,923</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOOKS</td>
<td>1,993,240</td>
<td>85,178</td>
<td>875,153</td>
<td>845,614</td>
<td>1,720,767</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>272,473</td>
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<tr>
<td>OFFICE EQUIP. REPAIR</td>
<td>60,456</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>50,626</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>50,626</td>
<td>84%</td>
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<td>EQUIPMENT</td>
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<td>OFFICE FURNITURE</td>
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<td>10,521</td>
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<td>COPIER MACHINE LEASE</td>
<td>278,150</td>
<td>19,565</td>
<td>117,304</td>
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<td>COPIER PAPER</td>
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<td>SUPPLIES</td>
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<td>SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE</td>
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<td>BUILDING RENT</td>
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<td>257,906</td>
<td>138,632</td>
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<td>LYSARIS CHARGES</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>OTHER SERVICES</td>
<td>168,719</td>
<td>4,485</td>
<td>83,403</td>
<td>37,872</td>
<td>121,275</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>47,444</td>
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<td>SECURITY SERVICES</td>
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<td>106,114</td>
<td>187,142</td>
<td>293,256</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>50,812</td>
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<tr>
<td>TRANSFER OUT CAPITAL PROJ</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>TRAVEL</td>
<td>3,080</td>
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<td>400</td>
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<td>400</td>
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<td>TRAINING</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1,150</td>
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<td>VEHICLE MAINTENANCE</td>
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<td>GENERAL INSURANCE</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>379,765</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>379,765</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>29,044,472</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,683,373</strong></td>
<td><strong>14,352,294</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,264,665</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,616,959</strong></td>
<td><strong>54%</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,427,513</strong></td>
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</table>
## DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY ARTS AND CULTURE

### MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - TOTAL LIBRARY

**AS OF AUGUST 31, 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>SERVICE</th>
<th>2015 BUDGET</th>
<th>AUGUST</th>
<th>2015 YTD</th>
<th>2015 YTD</th>
<th>2015 YTD</th>
<th>2015 YTD</th>
<th>BUDGET</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>AMOUNT</td>
<td>EXPENDITURES</td>
<td>EXPENDITURES</td>
<td>ENCUMBRANCES</td>
<td>COMMITTED</td>
<td>% COMMITTED</td>
<td>BALANCE</td>
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<td>PUBLIC SERVICE OPERATIONS</td>
<td>REG SALARY</td>
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<td>6,491,344</td>
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<td>6,325,152</td>
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<tr>
<td>PART TIME SALARY</td>
<td>1,644,350</td>
<td>101,820</td>
<td>478,373</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>478,373</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>1,165,977</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BENEFITS</td>
<td>6,390,166</td>
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<td>3,294,705</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3,294,705</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>3,095,461</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BOOKS</td>
<td>1,993,240</td>
<td>85,178</td>
<td>875,153</td>
<td>845,614</td>
<td>1,720,767</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>272,473</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFFICE EQUIP. REPAIR</td>
<td>58,456</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>50,626</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>50,626</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>7,830</td>
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<tr>
<td>OFFICE FURNITURE</td>
<td>61,171</td>
<td>19,200</td>
<td>49,148</td>
<td>1,502</td>
<td>50,650</td>
<td>62%</td>
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<td>PROFESSIONAL SERV</td>
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<td>8,541</td>
<td>17,480</td>
<td>26,020</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>15,780</td>
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<tr>
<td>COPIER MACHINE LEASE</td>
<td>229,320</td>
<td>17,195</td>
<td>99,303</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>99,303</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>130,017</td>
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<tr>
<td>COPIER PAPER</td>
<td>101,126</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>3,319</td>
<td>5,347</td>
<td>8,666</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>92,460</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUPPLIES</td>
<td>195,435</td>
<td>6,061</td>
<td>26,986</td>
<td>23,131</td>
<td>50,117</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>145,318</td>
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<td>396,538</td>
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<tr>
<td>OTHER SERVICES</td>
<td>68,451</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>38,757</td>
<td>17,072</td>
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<td>82%</td>
<td>12,622</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>344,068</td>
<td>17,918</td>
<td>187,142</td>
<td>293,256</td>
<td>50,812</td>
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<tr>
<td>TRANSFER OUT CAPITAL PROJ</td>
<td>120,000</td>
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<td>120,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAINING</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>GENERAL INSURANCE</td>
<td>575,035</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>287,518</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>50%</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>25,036,903</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,460,583</strong></td>
<td><strong>12,187,791</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,235,920</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,423,711</strong></td>
<td>54%</td>
<td><strong>11,613,192</strong></td>
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<td>SERVICE</td>
<td>2015 BUDGET</td>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>2015 YTD</td>
<td>2015 YTD ENCUMBRANCES</td>
<td>2015 YTD COMMITTED</td>
<td>% COMMITTED</td>
<td>BALANCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>SUPPORT SERVICES</td>
<td>REG SALARY</td>
<td>2,158,605</td>
<td>141,069</td>
<td>1,220,497</td>
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<td>1,220,497</td>
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<td>BENEFITS</td>
<td>1,091,289</td>
<td>70,817</td>
<td>595,827</td>
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<td>55%</td>
<td>495,462</td>
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<td>OFFICE EQUIP. REPAIR</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>EQUIPMENT</td>
<td>42,354</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>3%</td>
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<td>OFFICE FURNITURE</td>
<td>2,596</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,596</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,596</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<td>PROFESSIONAL SERV</td>
<td>15,004</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>8,161</td>
<td>5,844</td>
<td>14,005</td>
<td>93%</td>
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<td>COPIER MACHINE LEASE</td>
<td>48,830</td>
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<td>18,000</td>
<td>37%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SUPPLIES</td>
<td>124,585</td>
<td>4,301</td>
<td>29,189</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>29,189</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>95,396</td>
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<td>215,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>151,146</td>
<td>2,100</td>
<td>153,246</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>61,754</td>
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<td>LYRASIS CHARGES</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OTHER SERVICES</td>
<td>100,268</td>
<td>4,208</td>
<td>44,647</td>
<td>20,800</td>
<td>65,447</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>34,821</td>
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<td>TRAVEL</td>
<td>3,080</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>2,680</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TRAINING</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VEHICLE MAINTENANCE</td>
<td>13,750</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>450</td>
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<td>450</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>13,300</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GENERAL INSURANCE</td>
<td>184,495</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>92,248</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>92,248</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>92,248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>4,007,569</td>
<td>222,790</td>
<td>2,164,504</td>
<td>28,744</td>
<td>2,193,248</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>1,814,321</td>
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## System Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity and Description</th>
<th>2015 August</th>
<th>2015 YTD</th>
<th>2014 August</th>
<th>2014 YTD</th>
<th>% Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Collection Size</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Items the library owns</td>
<td>2,399,717</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,319,984</td>
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<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Cardholders</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Library accounts registered in our system</td>
<td>522,127</td>
<td></td>
<td>467,203</td>
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<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New Cardholders</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>First time registration of a patron</td>
<td>6,528</td>
<td>35,783</td>
<td>3,864</td>
<td>27,910</td>
<td>69% - 28%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Renewing Cardholders</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Current patrons renewing a card</td>
<td>11,351</td>
<td>65,734</td>
<td>7,172</td>
<td>52,565</td>
<td>58% - 25%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Circulation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total number of items checked out of the library</td>
<td>288,269</td>
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<td>1,949,318</td>
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<td>29% - 3%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Holds</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of requests by patrons for staff to locate and make available materials throughout the system</td>
<td>52,015</td>
<td>358,585</td>
<td>46,485</td>
<td>392,167</td>
<td>12% - 9%</td>
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<td><strong>Inter-Library Loans</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of items lent to or borrowed from another library system</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>2,009</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>1,950</td>
<td>25% - 3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Visits</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of people entering a library for any reason</td>
<td>273,121</td>
<td>2,067,638</td>
<td>322,061</td>
<td>2,372,432</td>
<td>-15% -13%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GED Testing &amp; Training</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of programs offered (counseling, training, testing)</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>24% -3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of unduplicated participants served</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>-16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of tests administered</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
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<td>Number of graduates</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>English as a Second Language Classes</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of programs</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>44% -19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people attending programs</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>1,280</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>1,007</td>
<td>51% - 27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity and Description</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td></td>
<td>2014</td>
<td></td>
<td>% Difference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>August</td>
<td>YTD</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>YTD</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auburn Avenue Research Library</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of research items requested by patrons</td>
<td>603</td>
<td>3,163</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13,683</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of finding aids accessed (on site as well as online sources)</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>398</td>
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<td>728</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of linear feet of archival material processed</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>384</td>
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<td>Patrons served</td>
<td>440</td>
<td>3,054</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13,625</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Collections (Genealogy, APRgaret Mitchell, GLBT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Requests for materials</td>
<td>3,444</td>
<td>23,689</td>
<td>2,364</td>
<td>16,007</td>
<td>46%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Partnership Programs</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Items circulated from programs created by partnering with other organizations (Zoo Pass: pass for up to 4 people; Parks Pass: free parking at parks or entrance to historic sites; Kill-A-Watt Meter: measures electricity use in the home)</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>2,801</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>2,202</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
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<td>Computer/Internet Usage</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of computer sessions (Internet access and office software)</td>
<td>74,484</td>
<td>531,680</td>
<td>58,383</td>
<td>503,439</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of hours of computer use</td>
<td>42,120</td>
<td>324,319</td>
<td>32,611</td>
<td>292,665</td>
<td>29%</td>
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<td>Wireless Sessions</td>
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<td>Number of times the library's wireless network is accessed</td>
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<td>348,593</td>
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<td>Number of times people have visited the library’s website</td>
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<td>5,534,148</td>
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<td>Number of times a resource is logged into or a searched performed other than library catalog</td>
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<td>522,194</td>
<td>40,663</td>
<td>751,483</td>
<td>39%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of classes</td>
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<td>165</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>-46%</td>
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<td>Number of attendees</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>1,134</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>1,824</td>
<td>-35%</td>
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<td>Virtual Circulation</td>
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<td>12,568</td>
<td>97,595</td>
<td>11,793</td>
<td>91,587</td>
<td>7%</td>
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<td>Virtual Reference Desk</td>
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<td>Information requests via telephone, online chat and email</td>
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<td>17,078</td>
<td>2,334</td>
<td>16,746</td>
<td>-14%</td>
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<td>Activity and Description</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>% Difference</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Books for Babies</strong></td>
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<td>Number of mothers who were made aware of the program, given a free book and applied for a card</td>
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<td>137</td>
<td>-11%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>46</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>-66%</td>
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<td><strong>Children's programs</strong></td>
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<td>Library sponsored programs offered for children (birth - 12)</td>
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<td>1,945</td>
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<td>Number of people attending programs</td>
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<td>103</td>
<td>1,829</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3,163</td>
<td>78,278</td>
<td>-7%</td>
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<td><strong>Teen Programs</strong></td>
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<td>Library sponsored programs offered for teens (13 - 17)</td>
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<td>362</td>
<td>-44%</td>
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<td>Number of people attending programs</td>
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<td>7,120</td>
<td>-49%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>63</td>
<td>711</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>734</td>
<td>12,409</td>
<td>-37%</td>
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<td><strong>Adult Programs</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Library sponsored programs offered for adults (18 + )</td>
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<td>2,102</td>
<td>22%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of people attending programs</td>
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<td>32,791</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>220</td>
<td>2,019</td>
<td>4%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3,233</td>
<td>29,308</td>
<td>12%</td>
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<td><strong>Programs - Total</strong></td>
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<td>Library sponsored programs offered - total of all programs</td>
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## ATLANTA-FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
### PROGRAM REPORT
#### AUGUST 2015

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<td>346</td>
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<td>246</td>
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**ATLANTA-FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM**

**PROGRAM REPORT**

**AUGUST 2015**
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<th>Y/A</th>
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<th>AUG 2014</th>
<th>INCREASE/ DECREASE</th>
<th>PERCENT CHANGE</th>
<th>YTD 2015</th>
<th>YTD 2014</th>
<th>INCREASE/ DECREASE</th>
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## ATLANTA-FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
### AUGUST CIRCULATION 2015 - 2014

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### Graphs

- [Graph 1](#)
- [Graph 2](#)
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<th>COMPUTER</th>
<th>LIBRARY</th>
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<th>MEETING ATTENDANCE</th>
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<td>478</td>
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<td>2,192</td>
<td>3,565</td>
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ATLANTA-FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
SYSTEM STATS AT A GLANCE
AUGUST 2015
ATLANTA-FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
Customer Service Comments
August 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>August 2015</th>
<th>July 2015</th>
<th>Year to Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Customer Comments Received:</strong></td>
<td>113</td>
<td>117</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Compliment</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Suggestion</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>53</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Complaint</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>466</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Inquiry</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>281</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ranking for Types of Comments:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Most frequent compliments received</td>
<td>- New libraries</td>
<td>- Customer service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Most frequent suggestions received</td>
<td>- Improve WiFi</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Most frequent complaints received</td>
<td>- Printing, Wi-Fi and Facility/ HVAC system issues</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Most frequent inquiries received</td>
<td>- Inquiries/Patron assistance (login) / PIN Resets</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Format of Comments:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Emails</td>
<td>42</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Postcards</td>
<td>41</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Direct Contact</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
**ATLANTA-FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM**

*Customer Service Snapshot August 2015*

- **51 compliments** were received during August. Almost all compliments received were related to our new bond libraries opened since 2014.

- A sampling of complimentary quotes received include:
  1. Roswell: “I want to commend the Roswell Branch for their good customer service and common sense approach to dealing with the holds books.”
  2. Central: “Your genealogy resources were a big help with our family tree project!”
  3. Alpharetta: “Many thanks to the Alpharetta staff for helping me to retrieve my laptop charger that was left underneath a table. Great customer service!”
  4. Milton: “Beautiful new branch. We love it!”
  5. Alpharetta: “Gorgeous new library. What an improvement.”
  6. Wolf Creek: “The conference rooms are great.”
  7. Palmetto: “Thank you for all of the programs. I am a grandmother with four special needs children and the Palmetto Library is our new hang out. Yes! Yes! Yes!”

- Managers receive a monthly compilation of the feedback received from patrons visiting their libraries as well as specific card/email/phone calls. Managers use this input to acknowledge employee’s success in a peer setting as evidence of the public’s appreciation for library services in their community.

- **62 disappointments and suggestions for improvements** were received during August indicating patrons felt the service they received that time was worse than what they’d experienced in the recent past. The greatest source of disappointment from patrons throughout our system was related to HVAC maintenance, IT and building maintenance issues.

- A sampling of quotes received appears below:
  1. Ocee: “Why so many empty magazine spaces? Where are all the subscriptions you used to have?”
  2. Ocee: “The library is too uncomfortable and warm to enjoy.”
  3. Adams Park: “The library is too hot.”
  4. College Park: “Why does the printing always seem to be out of order?”
  5. Adamsville: “The computers never seem to work correctly and the wifi access is horrible.”
  6. Southwest: “Why aren’t the building and grounds being maintained? The branch is not looking good.”

- Managers received a monthly compilation of the feedback received from patrons as well as copies of the comment cards and emails filled out by patrons visiting their library. The managers rely on customer feedback for instructional and coaching sessions.
FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING October 13, 2015 - 10:30AM BUCKHEAD BRANCH

Members Present:
Burke, Jamilica
Kaplan, Paul
Moody, Stephanie- Chairman
Taylor, Josh

Also In Attendance
Claxton, Zenobia - Assistant to Director's Office
Holloman, Gayle H. - Interim Director, Libraries Arts & Culture
Thomas, Harriet - Commissioner Lee Morris' Chief of Staff

Visitors Present
Macklin, Harriet J. - Friends of the Central Library

A. Preliminary Business:
   1. Adoption of Agenda
   2. Motion made and affirmed to move 'Director Search - Update' to Executive session
   3. Delete 'Ratification of any actions items from August 26, 2015 meeting
   4. Delete and add the 'Election of Officers' to the 10/28/15 agenda
   5. Add 'HB595 interpretation' to the 10/28/15 agenda
   6. Add 'Discussion of budget process and schedule' to the 10/28/15 agenda

B. Public Comments:
   1. No public comments

C. Approval of Minutes - Motion made and affirmed to approve the August 26, 2015 summary minutes in place of the verbatim transcript.

D. Motion made and approved: That draft of bylaws and constitution sent by email to all board members on October 12, 2015 be on the agenda for October 28, 2015 meeting for adoption.
E. Maintenance Issues – Paul Kaplan
   1. Spoke about the Library facilities and the ongoing problems. He also met with Dennis King and Al Collins.
   2. Action: Paul Kaplan to work with Gayle to develop better reporting on maintenance issues at branches and provide BOT a monthly status summary
   3. RFP to assess all the buildings in Fulton County including Libraries. First phase to include all library buildings will be due 2/26/16. Second phase 4/30/16.
   4. Nine responses were received regarding the RFP on 10/02/15.
   5. The study will identify requirements to improve facilities (Power, HVAC, Electrical, Plumbing, Mechanical systems) by following priority classifications:
      a. No repair
      b. Normal wear and tear
      c. Substantial work, but will not affect operation of libraries
      d. Immediate action to correct serious deficiency
      e. Does not meet the ADA requirements.

F. Director’s Reports
   1. No monthly reports were discussed. Gayle briefly spoke about the budget. Gayle informed the BOT that the Commissioners are responsible for approving the budget for the Library. The Board wants to be a part of the budget process.
   2. Brief discussion on a plan for Central; updated facility plan; review the previous FMP.
   3. Talked about enhancements/wish list for the library system.

G. Key measures of performance vs other metro counties. – Josh Taylor

The key measures of value (see next page) was presented and discussed. In summary, AFCLS is not competitive with other metro counties in Circulation, Visits and Programs and we spend more per capita to have poorer performance.

Gayle observed that AFCLS is an urban – suburban system, and that many of the services offered (after school programs, access to computers and the internet, etc.) make it difficult to compare with other metro Atlanta Library Systems.

We agreed that this is not a perfect measure and we need to develop measures that reflect the services that AFCLS offers.
Action: Following the meeting, we requested that Gayle provide additional information on

1. Key services provided by each branch and an estimate of % of staff time or staff hours per week required for each service.
2. Total 2015 Budget cost per branch and YTD actual cost per branch.
3. Budget enhancements needed and brief outline of value.

H. The meeting was adjourned and the trustees moved into executive session to discuss the ‘Director Search’.

Fulton County Library System Statistics and Issues 9-29-15

Key Measures of Value

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Measure</th>
<th>Avg. 4 Metro Counties</th>
<th>Fulton County</th>
<th>Ratio - Fulton to Avg. Metro</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population - Service area</td>
<td>630,037</td>
<td>1,014,894</td>
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<tr>
<td>Area Sq. Miles</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>529</td>
<td>164%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Density (Population per sq. mile)</td>
<td>1,915</td>
<td>1,919</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Circulation per Pop</td>
<td>5.47</td>
<td>2.62</td>
<td>48%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Patron visits per Pop</td>
<td>3.35</td>
<td>1.19</td>
<td>36%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015 Customer Satisfaction - Positive as % of total</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Budget $ per Population</td>
<td>$18.88</td>
<td>$28.78</td>
<td>152%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Library Mtls. (Books, etc.) $ per Population</td>
<td>$2.21</td>
<td>$1.61</td>
<td>73%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Branches per 100,000 Pop</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td>3.35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Sq. Feet Per 100 Pop</td>
<td>37.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collection Holdings Per Pop</td>
<td>1.29</td>
<td>2.37</td>
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<td>Hours of Operation - per 1000 pop</td>
<td>47.19</td>
<td>61.46</td>
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Summary: We are not competitive with other metro counties in Circulation, Visits and Programs and we spend more per capita to have poorer performance.

Current Challenges and Issues

1. Management:
   a. No BOT authority (reference 8-10-15 Fulton County Attorney letter on Purchasing)
   b. No strategic plan in last 15 years
   c. Lack of a permanent Library Director
   d. High Cost  - no benchmarks or reason other than too many facilities
2. Services to Community:
   a. Lack of maintenance of Buildings and equipment: Roof leaks and other water damage; Lighting; Bookmobile broken; Facilities closed due to HVAC outages
   b. Internet availability at all branches - due to change in system
   c. Delays in adding staff to operate proposed schedules
   d. Budget cuts: not enough $ for materials and for proactive outreach services
   e. Collection too large – age is 18 years on average; no de-acquisition program

3. How to complete 2008 Facilities plan:
   a. Central Library: out of date facility, poorly maintained, auditorium not working, low utilization, (34% of space, 2.7% of circulation in total Library System)
   b. No plan for replacing or renovating central - $50MM in private money not raised
   c. Not enough money to renovate 23 remaining branches
   d. Too many small branches - low utilization and high cost.
FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

OCTOBER 13, 2015 – 10:30 A.M.

BUCKHEAD BRANCH

1170 Peachtree Street
Suite 1200
Atlanta, Georgia 30309
Tel: 404-885-6607
www.speakdepo.com
Ms. Stephanie Moody called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. at the Buckhead Branch Library.
Transcript Legend

— — Break in speech continuity or interruption

(sic) Exactly as said

(phonetic) Exact spelling unknown

Quoted material is typed as spoken.

** Inaudible
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Atlanta Fulton Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting
October 13, 2015
(BEGAN AT 10:41 AM)

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Do we have any reports we want to make, any business that doesn't need a quorum?

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Well, we can discuss the things that are on our discussion list.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Well, I'm wondering if we should --

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: I can do maintenance, and if we -- you can just listen to me talk.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Okay. I know one of the reasons you all wanted this meeting is -- but since we've got an official reporter.

Can you start taking notes?

THE COURT REPORTER: Absolutely. Whenever you guys are ready, I'm ready.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Okay. I'm not calling the meeting to order, but would you start recording and just say that we're having an informal discussion --

THE COURT REPORTER: Sure.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: -- before the meeting?

THE COURT REPORTER: Whatever you want on the record, we can do that right now.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: And then your report
will be on the record.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** Okay.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** And other people will have access to it.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** And then, Jamilica, if you would make some notes, because we're doing -- I'm sorry.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Zenobia.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Zenobia. I've done that before. I apologize.

I'd like to go ahead and do this as a trial for you to make some notes on the minutes. I'll make notes, and then you will share yours with me, so that we can put out a summary of the minutes, as opposed to just the verbatim transcript.

And we can certainly hear from anybody who wanted to speak if they --

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Yeah. Do we have anybody who wants to speak? No.

Do you want to make this part of the official record?

**MS. ZENOBI CLAXTON:** Okay.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Okay. Take it away, Paul.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** Okay. Since the facility
is very important in the infrastructure of the libraries, so I take it upon myself -- I had a meeting with -- last month -- with Mr. King, and I also had a meeting with Dennis King and Al Collins.

Dennis King is the Facility Project Director, and Alfred Collins, he now knows that he's also going to be in charge of all the branch libraries, and we had a discussion.

We also had a -- three other people on the phone. Don't ask me who the other people's names are, because they kept jumping back and forth, but kind of give you what's happening: There's a facility condition assessment request for proposal. I have it here, August. I downloaded it. It's about a hundred and something pages. My printer just about went blank on it, but what's happening is they put a request for proposal to assess all the buildings in Fulton County, and I'm going to jump around here.

The first assessment is due back to Fulton County on February 26th. That includes 66 buildings, and out of the 66 buildings, all libraries are going to be involved in that first assessment, and that's going to be due back to
them on February 26th.

The second assessment is for 44 buildings other buildings, and that's due back on April 30th. Some of the highlights of what they're asking for -- I'm going to give you something -- this is the main highlights that the request for proposal assessment is, and by the way, the proposal assessment price was due back to Fulton County on October 2nd, and they had nine responses, so there's nine companies that are interested in doing this assessment, which is quite extensive.

I'll give you the highlights of what it is: First thing is they had to provide a detailed physical condition of each branch library, the cost of repairs and replacement for each branch, along with prioritizing any repairs, and how they're going to prioritize it, there's going to be five ways. One is no repair where a replacement action is needed. In other words, nothing is going to get done. It's going to kind of stay there. It's not affecting the library branch.

The second assessment is normal wear and tear that's occurred, but no action is required, and
they have to revisit this thing once per year.

The third one is what they call substantial work is needed to ensure safe and efficient operations can continue without interruption, so they can do the repairs, even though they're substantial, but it will not affect the operation of the library.

It's very important to me that the branch library stay open during these repairs, unless they're so terrible that it has to close.

The next one is immediate actions required to avoid or correct serious problems. That will impact some of the branches that need that kind of work. That will be assessed at the time.

And the last one: It does not meet the ADA code requirement. There are some facilities, apparently -- and I've only gone to eight branches. There's some facilities that do not meet the ADA requirements, and that is critical, and that, believe it or not, is going to cost a lot to change some of those out, but it has to be done.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Can you summarize what that entails, what the ADA means?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: The American with
Disabilities Act.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Oh, ADA. Okay. Got it.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: ADA. So what they're being looked at is the equipment and infrastructure of the HVAC system, the plumbing, the roofing, the electrical wiring, see if it meets or exceeds the typical economic and use of life, or if it's poorly maintained, resulting in the reduction of use life.

What they're finding out is that for the last four, five, six, seven years, nothing has been done. All they've been doing is if there's a problem with the heat or the air conditioning, they patch it, and that's all they do, and sometimes they don't even do that, because we have several branches that have temporary solutions done at a phenomenal cost.

We have one library, and I can't remember which one it is, but I have in my notes, these cold spot coolers, it's costing something like $35,000 per month --

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: It's probably Northeast Spruill Oaks.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: -- just to keep them operating, $35,000 a month. You realize that's
not doing any repairs in the unit. It's just keeping those things temporarily going.

It's beyond me, some of the conditions, and I've been going to the branches, but not even looking at things, not insides. I'm looking at the mechanical room, the electrical, the HVAC, the plumbing. Some of these things are just in terrible shape. They're really not good at all.

Now that they have the request for proposals in their hand, then it's up to them to decide which ones they're going to use. Once that is done, then the Board of Commissioners has to meet and decide are they going to -- I don't know. I can't find out what the cost came in. That's confidential -- are they going to have enough money to do this assessment?

This assessment is quite extensive, and they don't give them a lot of time. I'm telling you, I've done these kinds of assessments. Here it is October. Say the Commissioners meet once a month.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Twice.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** Twice a month, so say they let the contract out in November. That first phase has to be done by February 26th. I'm telling you, that is a very quick turnaround.
It's very extensive. You have the motors -- just
the motors alone, you have to get the serial
numbers. You've got to call the manufacturers.
There's a lot involved in something like this, but
it has to be done.

Their number one priority, and here's the
priority. The first priority for county buildings
is libraries is first. Senior health centers are
second. Health facilities is third. Annexes or
service centers is fourth. Court house is fifth,
and the government building is sixth.

Library is now on top of the list, and the
reason why it's on top of the list is basically,
most public contact libraries. That's the first
thing when you walk in the library, geez, this
place is a mess; the lights are not working; the
IT is not working; things are not being done, and
that affects everybody, especially the
Commissioners, to tell you the truth, and I'm
being honest. This is how it is.

So what is going to happen is, you realize
that -- say the first phase comes back March 1st,
and it includes our libraries. Nobody has
discussed what is going to be done inside the
libraries. Are you going to do furniture? Are
you going to do lights? Are you doing the HVAC?
There's no architectural rendering. We need all
that to be done and completed.

You're probably now talking -- and I'm
telling you, I've been in enough trades -- that
you probably won't start any of the work in a
branch, if I had to guess, middle of next year at
the earliest before they even do one branch.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Are you talking about
the $23 million for the bonds, or are you talking
about this assessment that is coming down through
the County Manager's office?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Just the assessment alone.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Okay.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: It's supposed to cover all
the branches, and I'm telling you as I'm talking
now, it's not going to happen. I'm telling you I
know what the HVAC system costs.

I was at one where all the parts were -- all
the new parts for the HVAC system was sitting up
in the attic area, and the reason it wasn't being
done is because the code on the computer. You
have to do it by computer before you set your
points. Nobody knew what the pass code was,
because that person's gone. We didn't have
anybody in IT who could come in and get into the
system to change the code. I get more upset the
more I talk about this, because being in this --
go ahead. You can stop me at any time.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** My question is: Is there
anything in the scope of this to do any
architectural design work, as far as the
interiors?

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** Not at all.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** So that’s a separate
project.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** This should be two
separate ones. The $23 million was to spruce up
the libraries, not deal with day-to-day
maintenance, so things like air conditioning and
lighting, that was never part of the concept.

We were to take a room like this and -- this
room did get new carpet not that long ago, but it
would be to fix up this room so it's more in
keeping with what we would like it to be, like to
deal with the books in the front by buying shelves
to actually put things on. It wasn't a building
renovation. It was a -- I can't think what to
call it, but spruce up, I guess.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** We talked about this, and I
said, well, okay, so we're talking about the middle of next year, and so what am I supposed to do with the rest of libraries, just to leave them sit there for the next six to eight months and do no work? He says no, they promised to keep this thing up, and what they're going to do is if there's a major HVAC system that has to be replaced, they will do it; however, there is some branches that are in such bad shape -- I haven't been there yet -- that why would I want to spend $200,000 to $300,000, $400,000 on HVAC systems on a branch that basically gets no circulation? Why can't I take that money and put it over to something else? I mean, there's a lot to talk about.

There's a lot involved in this thing, and they don't really have the money right now. I can tell you right now. Fulton County doesn't have the money to do a lot of this work.

Even the simple thing as maintenance work, but I think the final draw was Roswell Library. I got that picture from that Friend's group with that toilet paper hanging on a string in the women's bathroom. We got the gentleman on the phone, who's the head of it. He said, well, they
wouldn't do that. I said, yes, they did.

I said, listen, don't tell me they don't do it. I'm telling you this is what's going on.

Well, we'll look into it.

I said, well, look into all of it, because I don't think that any of the maintenance in any of these things are good. I think they do a poor job. They maybe maintain it.

You can't have one person come in and clean the bathrooms in 45 minutes and leave. That's important to have maintenance. Nothing is getting cleaned.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** It's a sorry situation.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** It's terrible, and not only talking about the public. I'm talking about the employee's bathrooms. I'm talking about the kitchen facilities, and all the things that they have, so what I told him I will do: I will continue to do what I'm doing. They want me to contact them directly. Whenever I contact them directly, I'll e-mail and give you a copy. I'll give you a copy of it, it, just so you know where I'm at on these things.

We have one, they have no lights in the parking lot, except one light. We have a light
safety problem.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** We do.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** First of all, how is the person who shuts the library a woman, walk to her car where it's pitch black back there, and drugs are dealing and things are happening back there? Those lights -- so we got on the phone.

We have a wonderful lift over at Wolf Creek Library. We have a new lift; however, you can't get it in the truck. You have to have a flatbed. Nobody owns a flatbed, so the darn thing sits at Wolf Creek, and it can't be moved, so they only have one flatbed. Fulton County has one flatbed, and they've got 213, 214 buildings they handle.

So in this sense, let's go to an outside contractor. We finally got an outside contractor that's going to replace the lights on the boom lift to get up there. We have lights, and the thing at Roswell Library, the lights had been finally done. We got somebody else in from the outside to come in. That's what it's going to have to take. It's going to have to take an outside contractor to do it.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Well, I don't understand -- I know we don't have a branch
manager everywhere, but somebody --

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Yes, we do.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** We do now?

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Oh, yes, we do.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** We have one at every one. Well, we didn't use to.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** We have branch manager everywhere now.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Why can't the branch manager do a walk-through to report to us if need be?

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** Well, here's --

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** They do.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** -- what it's supposed to be. They do a walk-through, and then they give it to -- you correct me if I'm wrong, Gayle. They give it to the supervisor. He then turns it into --

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** The group manager.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** They give it to Rose Lewis. They first send in a work request. They wait a couple of days. They'll let Rose know. Then Rose will let the branch group managers and me know that they've had these difficulties with the air or whatever, and then we'll start making
phone calls, but that's the process. We had to put it in a work request that goes in with the thing I told you about, City Works, and then they're supposed to pick it up and start doing whatever with it.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** But as you and I know, it often doesn't happen.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Oh, no, it does not happen.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** Okay. What's happening is there is some kind of disconnection going on in communications, because I asked that to Dennis, said, well, I don't know. They need to follow through, that if he doesn't get a response within two days, he calls again. Then it goes to the next person, and keeps going up the level, finally gets to your office, and your office can push it fast, so --

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** But correct me if I'm wrong --

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** -- on some of these work requests, I got 367 work orders sitting in this folder here on the different libraries, and I said, well, how do we know it's being done? He said, well, normally, they put it in.
I said, it's not being inputted in. I said, some of these I've walked into; they're done. They were done months ago. I said, how come they didn't show up?

He said, well, he's going to look into that. Somebody is not putting it in, telling the library it's been done; take it off the darn thing --

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Well, they never come back and tell us it's done. We just have to know it; we're there, that it's done.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** They don't do it.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Couldn't the branch --

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** They've never done that.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Couldn't the branch manager handle that?

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Yeah, they could -- they would often tell us it was done, but if they failed to, there's no one from the County telling us that.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** So all of this has to be kind of tightened up. It has to be changed, and I told him, I said, what happens if we get all this done?

And he said, we're going to do some changes,
so that this stuff gets done.

It's ridiculous that these branches, that some of them are in that kind of --

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** We spend a lot of time --

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** The fact that you can't even see a lousy book on the shelf because it's dark --

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Because -- that's here. That happens at this library. You have to get down on the floor with a flashlight.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** Yes. I mean, I was wondering --

(Whereupon, Jamilica Burke enters conference room at 10:56 a.m.)

**MS. JAMILICA BURKE:** My apologies.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** That's okay. I was at one, that in the work group of your staff --

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Hello.

**MS. JAMILICA BURKE:** Hello.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** -- because the Friends gave them click-on lights --

**MS. JAMILICA BURKE:** Ladies, how are you?

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** -- with bulbs on it, so
they couldn't -- I'm telling you, I've seen a lot of systems, but this is --

MS. GAYLE HOLLoman: It's pitiful.

Well, they have started, as of two weeks ago, they started the grounds upkeep with outside groups, outside concerns, where they're going around, and they're cutting the grass and what have you.

They started out with an outside company, and then something happened with the money, and so now, they've put their own people on it, and they gave me a new schedule last Sunday, as to how they're working through it, so I don't know well that's going to go, because they don't really have enough people, but we'll see.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: They're working on -- they're doing the outside lawn maintenance on Saturday and Sunday --

MS. GAYLE HOLLoman: Saturdays and Sundays.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: They can't do it during the week, because they're too busy with the other buildings.

MS. GAYLE HOLLoman: Right.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: They're only going to cut grass. They're not going to do the weeds and
things that should be done, but they're doing something.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: But some of these hedges and what have you, are in such disarray that even if you cut the grass, it's going to look unsightly, because it's been so unkempt for so long.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Well, the weed, I mean, the only way we're going to get the libraries' grounds back into any kind of repair is to beg for some volunteer help to go out and work on it, because the way they rotate the yard care around where all we get is --

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: But you know there's a legal issue or concern about --

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: I know, but --

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: -- safety issues that are insurance issues.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: -- it's been there.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Another option is basically that we make a request to the County to put it in the budget and do it.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Well, that's a good answer. Maybe we should start making --

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Where it's in the budget
cycle here.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: But you know, that is not in our budget. That's in the County's --

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: I know.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: -- operating budget.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: I know, but I'm just saying that as Board members, I think we need to be unified in communicating with our County Commissioners that this is a terrible situation, and that money needs to be added to the County budget, as long as the County is managing it, and we need to have some accountability back to the library system.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Well, we've got to make it a number one priority, which you never did before. That's the first time in -- because it isn't coming from us. It's coming from the patrons. Patrons are calling up. They're aggravated.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: They call and --

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: -- they're calling their Commissioner. They're on the Commissioner's back, because nothing is getting done at the branches --

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Library comments.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: -- especially, if you go in the children's department, you can't read a book.
A child can't read a book, come on, so I might as well close the branch, but I'll get off my --

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Here's my question: Can you figure out some type of mechanism of reporting with Gayle and the branch managers that keeps the Board of Trustees informed? I think this is a key measure, and that if we get some type of monthly report and talk about at the board meeting, then we can communicate with our Commissioners.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: I can do that, but right now, at least I have an ear to go to directly to the facility department.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Yeah. As an action item, if you can work with Gayle and the branch managers for some type of report on the systems. I don't know what exists right now, but we need to elevate the visibility of that to all of the Board members.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Well, there was some confusion in that if something didn't get done in a timely manner, then they send in another report.

MS. GAYLE HOLLoman: They stopped us from doing that, because they said it creates two or three --

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Yeah. It starts the
process all over again.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** -- but what they do is if they don't hear, they're supposed to let me or the branch group managers know, and then we start the process of calling and doing, and trying to get some attention to it, depending upon the priorities involved.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Who does it?

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Most of it -- they're all high priority, usually, by the time it gets to us.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Who does the calling?

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** The branch group managers themselves, Clay and Cheryl, will actually do it themselves, and then I do a lot of it myself.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Which is not something you should be spending your time on.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** No, but you just do what you have to do.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** Well, I will continue to do what I'm doing, and I will work on something with Gayle, and as I will continue to go through all the branches and find out what's going on with these reports and what's happening, the more I get
into it, the more I'll push them on their end and try to get some of these things done.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Would you also, when you're at the branches, look at some of the statistics related to the branches, because you said earlier, maybe some of these branches would be -- better serve the community if there were closed, so more effort and money could be spent on other branches.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** Well, like I said, if you spend $200,000 or $300,000 on a branch that doesn't have any kind of term on or something, maybe you need to open another branch, a new one, and get out of that space, but it's -- I will do that.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** That sort of falls under the -- I think we need to go ahead and open the --

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** The meeting?

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** -- the meeting.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Yep.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** Go ahead, because my time is limited, so I've got another meeting.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** So we do now have a quorum, so I will officially call the meeting of October 13th to order. It is 11:00 a.m., and the
first order of business is the Adoption of the Agenda. Are there any changes in the Agenda?

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Well, primarily, I suggested to you that we move the Director Search, up there to Executive Search.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Okay. So we will move the Item No. 3 down under Item No. 12.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: And you have my e-mail, but I've reviewed the minutes, and there were no official actions taken, so I don't think we need to deal with the ratification of action items.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Right. Okay, but we would still approve the minutes from the regular meeting.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yeah, and I still think that the election of officers should be done at the meeting at Central in weeks.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Okay.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: So that the entire Board is here.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Should we delete that then?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yes.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Yes.

MS. JAMILICA BURKE: Yes.
MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: We'll delete Item No. 12, so there now will still be 12 items on the Agenda, although we've already gone over one of them, so with the changes, may I have a motion to approve?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: So moved.

MS. JAMILICA BURKE: So moved.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Can you hand me my sheet back, because that's the --

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Did I take your sheet?

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: I'd given you an e-mail that had a motion.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Oh, well, I wrote on it.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: That's all right. So the motion is that the summary minutes be approved from the regular meeting of August 26, 2015 in place of the verbatim transcript, and these were sent out after the meeting, so I need a second.

MS. JAMILICA BURKE: Second.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Any discussion?

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Well, those in favor?

(Whereupon, all said "Aye.")

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Any opposed?

The motion carries.
So we are approving the minutes that you supplied to the Board, rather than the verbatim minutes.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Right.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: All right.

May I now have a motion to adopt the Agenda --

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: So moved.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: -- as amended?

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Second.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: All in favor?

(Whereupon, all said "Aye.")

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Any opposed? Thank you.

We have -- the acoustics in here are not very good, and so we need to slow down a little for our stenographer, so that she can get the accurate minutes, but you're also taking minutes.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Yeah. I'm taking minutes.

THE COURT REPORTER: Well, it's really the construction here as well, and the double-talk over one another.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Right.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Okay.

The next -- well, I'm going to ask for a
motion to approve the minutes in the regular meeting of August 26th.

    **MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** We already did that.

    **MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** We already did that ahead of the Agenda.

    **MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Yeah.

    **MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** All right, then. We'll move to Item 4, which is Maintenance Issues Quantified and Solutions/Timeline Discussed. We've already covered that in the informal part of our meeting. You can find it in the minutes, exactly, the verbatim minutes.

The next order of business is the Bylaws Revision and Discussion.

    **MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** I will make a motion that the draft of Bylaws and Constitution sent by e-mail to all Board members on October 12, 2015 be on the Agenda for the October 28, 2015 meeting for adoption.

    Can I get a second?

    **MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** Second.

    **MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Any discussion? Any questions?

    **MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** I have a question on the time. Is it the Bylaws that discuss the time
that we meet?

   MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Yes.

   MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: And how did that end up, because it fluctuated. You and I discussed it, but I did not know how it ended up.

   MR. JOSH TAYLOR: It basically says we will set the time at the regular meeting, or any meeting for the next meeting, and we can set it as a standard time, and Gayle, I got your note, and I understand the idea that we need to have some consistency, and so when we're all together, we need to discuss the time: Is 4:00 the best time or is it a different time? 4:00 is fine with me.

   MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Okay.

   MR. JOSH TAYLOR: But the Bylaws as they currently are stated do not nail down the exact time. They just say the fourth Wednesday of each month, and the time and location will be established.

   MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Well, as soon as we adopt them, we can start revising them again if we need to.

   MR. JOSH TAYLOR: That's a different process, but you're right.

   MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Did you specify the
location, or did you allow for the location to vary?

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: The location can be determined at the Board meeting. Would you like for me to read it for you?

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: No. I had it in front of me. I wanted confirmation on it, so that I had it correctly.

All right. Any more discussion?

All those in favor?

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Jamilica, did you have a chance to --

MS. JAMILICA BURKE: Yeah. I read through it a couple of days ago, and for me, there wasn't any questions that particularly stood out at this time, no.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Okay. So the motion has been made and seconded.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: All those in favor?

(Whereupon, all said "Aye.")

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Any opposed? The motion carries.

The next order of business is the Constitution Revision and Discussion. Josh, you're up again.
MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Well, the motion I made was the draft Bylaws and Constitution, so we have done both of them, so we can vote on them, and if anybody has some questions.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Right. I did not specifically ask for any questions on the Constitution, though. Are there any questions on the Constitution?

Okay. Hearing none, we will move on.

House Bill 595 Interpretation as it Directs Our Actions, this has been a bit of a, what did I call it, a "tempest in a teacup," trying to know what is governing us, but the House Bill itself is fairly straightforward. It addresses attendance at meetings, and the change of the name of the system.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: I think the issue, which I've raised, is whether we are truly a freestanding independent library system of the Board of Trustees, or are we still largely embedded into the County in terms of authority and responsibility. I don't think that's been resolved, but the meeting that Paul and I had with two of the Commissioners, and I think I sent an e-mail out to everybody on this, is that I don't
think they're ready to say, yes, you're a freestanding system, but they want us to focus on three things. One is a search. Second is the budget, and third, maybe not in sequence, but it is an updated facility plan, and my understanding is they are going to discuss that among the other Commissioners, and hopefully will ratify their support for those three priorities for this Board of Trustees, and for the library board, so that's my summary report of our meeting, and my understanding, and I haven't heard back from either Bob Ellis or Lee Morris, yet, as to whether they have had further discussions with other --

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** Not at this time. They delayed it for about a month. They had a couple of things that had to get done on the Agenda, so it might be now they're going to do it this month, but they were going to do it last month right after us, and they said they would have to delay it. There was something else that came up. I'm not sure what it is, but the argument has been discussed with the other Commissioners.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Do we want this on the Agenda for the October meeting?

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** I think so, yes.
MS. JAMILICA BURKE: Yes.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: So if we would add that as an Agenda item for further discussion. I know the attorney has been interpreting it in light of some of the difficulties we've had meeting.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Right. But at least we've gotten clarification. We can pass the Bylaws at the next meeting, and then I think we're go to go, so ...

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Okay. The Item No. 7 since we've moved 3, but it would be the Discussion of the Budget Process and Schedule.

You brought that up that --

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Yes. I've requested for Gayle to send me some information about last year's process and last year's budget, and then anything we have on the going forward budget, so maybe you can give us an update.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: What's happening with the budget is doesn't really quite work that way. They basically have already given us our budget. They just basically tell you how much money you have, and then you have to just say what you're going to do with it, so essentially, what we're doing is what we did last year with the money.
We're asking for positions. We found out other positions we thought we were going to be able to fill; we can't fill, about 30 full-time. Now, we're down to only about, perhaps, 12 of them, and then the part-time that we thought we were going to be able to fill, perhaps, about 40, we're down to nine, so there are -- so even with that, there may be some more cuts with that.

So what they do is they give the financial systems analyst, Ed Robinson, that you met, he and I met with you -- they give him the dollars, and tell him what they say we can do, as far as the money they're going to allow us, and then we have to figure out how we're going to make it happen.

So we're trying not to cut anymore of book budget, which is down to $1.9 million, which is what is was last year, so we don't want to touch that, but we know now we're not going to be able to get the positions, because $23 million of our budget falls into salaries, and so it looks like we're going to have about $27 million, so that only leaves us about $4 million for everything else, that's materials and everything else we do, so that's really where we are, so it's not a true debate over the budget like we'd like. It's never
been like that.

Mr. Josh Taylor: Well, I guess my question is: Can you provide us that number?

Ms. Gayle Holloman: Sure. We can, yes.

Mr. Josh Taylor: And last year's budget and the assumptions that went into the model of the budget.

Ms. Gayle Holloman: Yes. That's what Ed is working on.

Mr. Josh Taylor: And then what's your timetable for providing us a more detailed budget that we have to approve?

Ms. Stephanie Moody: Well, here's --

Ms. Gayle Holloman: Well, the Commissioners --

Ms. Stephanie Moody: -- what's frustrating is that we're told how much money we have, instead of --

Mr. Josh Taylor: I understand that, but not how -- spent.

Ms. Gayle Holloman: Yes, we really are, somewhat, because it really doesn't change that much. The biggest problem we have has to do with salaries, so what we get to tell them is which positions do you want to keep, because you're
going to have to lose some, so that's what we've
been dealing with, and it was due last Friday, but
we're still dealing with what positions are you
going to cut, because you can't have them all, so
that's the bulk of our expenditures are in
salaries.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** I understand that.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** And so that's where we
always are in this situation, so we've been
looking at, okay, what branch really has to have
this? What branch really has to have that? How
can we do what we want to do, and that's the
dilemma we're facing.

The rest of it pretty much stays the same
year after year, because they don't give us that
much, unless later on they come up with some money
somewhere, and they give us some offset money to
do some other things, so they tell us what the
budget is.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Okay. Well, the Board of
Trustees is responsible for approving the budget
according to Bill 595, and so we need to have some
information so that we can make a decision.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** We need a budget based
on what we need, not on how much money there is;
otherwise, how can we ask for more money if we can quantify --

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: I would agree, but that's why I want to see the assumptions, the staffing assumptions that go into it.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Can you -- I mean, when Mr. Szabo was here, he broke down the budget by line item, line item, everything. Do we have last year's budget?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: We have last that. That's what Ed Robinson is going to give us.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Can you provide Josh a copy of that?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Sure. Yes.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: And you look at it, and tell us how you would approach it, because basically, history says that starting in 2008, our funds were just cut, and we were told: Deal with it, instead of us saying to perform these functions well, this is how much money we need, and our book budget is -- so does maintenance come out of our budget, or does that come out of Fulton County's budget?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: It's Fulton County.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Okay. So that's not
really even a part of our budget.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** They tell us to an extent what the budget is going to be, and like you said, ever since 2008, basically, they've just been cutting it and cutting it, and so we deal with, primarily, as I said, the aspect of personnel, and then of course, if we want to give up anything else, then we have to look at -- or if we want anything else, we have to look at where can you cut, and it usually comes out of the materials budget, and we've cut it so much over the years that we just don't have much more we can cut, and so it's a situation where you're not able to prioritize.

When you to prioritize what you are asking for, you do a form called "enhancements," and so we've asked for our enhancements. We never get enhancements, but we always ask for them, and the reason we do that -- we've got about 12 things we're asking for now -- the reason we do that is because if they ever do get any money, then they'll go back and they'll say, okay, these are the enhancements, you can have this, this and this, and we'll give you X number of dollars for it, but they traditionally do not -- every now and
then, we'll get a $300,000 here or whatever there, and that's it.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** So all I'm saying is that you need to enlist us in that process, one, because it's required; and two, because we may have more success in going back to our Commissioners to get you some of the enhancements.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** We need the ability to -- if one line item isn't drawn down to zero, and won't be, we need to be able to move that money to a different area, because right now, it just flows right back to the Fulton County, so you may say we have a budget --

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Well, that falls under what I would call "the other things that we need as a freestanding library system," and we're not there yet, so I think we just need to go ahead and focus on the budget, and there's nothing say we can't say you can't have all these hours, and all these programs with this budget. I think we need to weigh in, and help you make the case.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Well, less would be -- that's what caused us to have to lay off all those part-timers in 2014. It was because we said we can't maintain these hours, and then they gave us
back the money so we could restore the hours by
hiring additional part-time, so that brought us
back, but now, it's every year we go back and
forth. It's like a see-saw. You give it, you
take it, you give it, you take it, and so we could
be back in that situation again where we have to
lay off all the part-timers, or we have to reduce
hours again, because it's just not working, and
the dollars aren't going to be there.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** And that's the case we need
to make is that this system is not working
effectively, and we need to increase the
visibility of that fact in terms of the Board of
Commissioners.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Yeah. If we can't have
a robust 34-branch system, what should change?
One other question: Our leases, who pays our
leases? Does that come out of our budget?

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** That comes out of our
budget. We're paying leases on quite a few
places, like Georgia Hill, ML King Library,
$100,000 a year on that lease. We want to get
out of it. We've talked about that.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Right. I have pushed
for us to get out of the Martin Luther King lease
as well.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** We need to get out of that one.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Because it is so expensive. $100,000 would go a long way towards some of these things.

All right. Is there any more need on or elaboration on the budget?

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Well, not just as an action item, we need this as soon as possible, because we're meeting in two weeks, and we need to have it on the Agenda.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** I was talking to Ed about it on Friday and again yesterday, so he's working on it, but he's had to work on all the budget stuff, so everything is happening at once.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** Right. We can be your advocate. I mean, we can get right to the Commissioner. If you went to the Commissioner, okay, fine, but if we go, I think it would have much more of a pull.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Right. Exactly.

**MR. PAUL KAPLAN:** And we'll do what we have to do.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Okay.
MR. PAUL KAPLAN: And if they tell us no, table it, we'll battle it, but --

MS. GAYLE HOLLoman: I understand.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: -- the worst thing you can do is fire us, right?

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Yes, or they could reduce your salary.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Reduce my salary, yeah, they can do that.

MS. JAMILICA BURKE: Real quick, in looking at the budget, have you all already designed a list, maybe like a wish list of what you would like to see?

MS. GAYLE HOLLoman: That's what the enhancements are. Oh, there's always a wish list we can create.

MS. JAMILICA BURKE: So we'll get that with the budget information.

MS. GAYLE HOLLoman: We can do that.

MS. JAMILICA BURKE: Yes. Thank you.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: As an FYI, the Board of Commissioners reported that you may no longer have more than two minutes to speak to them, and you may not relinquish your minutes to someone else, so we need to document this in writing, because
you're no longer able to stand in front of the Commission and speak.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Well, standing in front of the Commission isn't the effective way to do it. We've got to work on a one-on-one, and get them to agree to support us.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** All right. Number 8, I guess it would be: Key Measures of Performance versus Other Metro Counties.

Again, it's you, Josh.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Okay. Pass that around.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Would you pass this to the stenographer, too, so that she can make it apart of the record?

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Well, I can e-mail Zenobia a copy.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Okay.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** So ... We'll make it apart of the minutes.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Okay.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** All right. This is the presentation that Paul and I met with two of our Commissioners on, and some of this data, I think I have shared with everybody in the past at an earlier meeting, but this is kind of a boiled down
comparison.

Our population for Fulton County versus the four metro counties that are the basis of the comparison, these are the Cobb, DeKalb, Gwinnett, and Forsyth, because I met with each of the County Commissioners -- no, the County Library Directors, so you can see that we have 161 percent of the average of the four counties in terms of relation.

It's about 164 percent of the average square miles, so we're about the same density in terms of population per square mile for these four counties. Obviously, Forsyth is less dense than some of the others.

The annual circulation for population, this is an index, and comparing Fulton County, which is 2.62 items in circulation per population. Compared it to the other four counties, it's 5.47, so we're about 48 percent, almost half of the other four counties in terms of circulation.

Patron visits, summarily, we are 36 percent of the reported patron visits per population, and the assumption here is that populations should be the index that we use to evaluate how well we're providing services, so we're going to compare ourselves on that.
Customer satisfaction, this was not measured uniformly. All I did here was take the ratio, year-to-date ratio of positive versus negative reports that are in your monthly report, Gayle, and 46 percent are positive, so anything below 50 percent, to me, is not a very good sign of customer satisfaction.

The next line down, the annual budget per population, we have the highest of the five counties at $28.78 per population. The average for the other four counties is $18.88, so we're at about 52 percent higher spending per population.

On book, we're $1.61. The rest of them are at $2.21, so we are roughly 73 percent of the average of our four other counties.

In branches per 100,000 population, the average is 2.3 branches. We have 3.35 branches, so we have more branches relative to population than the other counties.

In terms of total square feet, we have about twice as much in square feet, and a big part of that is the amount of space at Central, and it really is not effectively utilized.

In terms of collection holdings per population, we have, again, almost twice as much
as the other four counties, 184 percent.

   Hours of operation, this was an interesting one. We do have more hours of operation per thousand population than the other four counties.

   MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: We have more branches.

   MR. JOSH TAYLOR: That's true, and that's not really reflected, so in summary, we're not competitive with the other metro counties in terms of circulation, visits and programs, and we spend more per capita, and have poorer performance on some of these measures.

   So I think our current challenges and issues are that we do not have a real authoritative Board of Trustees, Gayle, to have an influence on purchasing or maybe budgeting as well.

   There's been no strategic plan in the last 15 years, and Gayle, I think that was something you told me. We do lack a permanent library director, and we have high cost.

   On services to the community, Paul has discussed in detail the lack of maintenance and building equipment, and everybody is familiar with that.

   Internet availability, we've had the delays, and the staff, because of the up and downs of the
budget cycle, and the collection, basically is 18 years' average, which is more than the acquisition program that's been put in place.

So the third area of challenge is how do we complete the 2008 Facilities Plan, and at Central Library, which is an out-of-date facility, poorly maintained, the auditorium is not working.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: It is now.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: It is now. Good.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: We got it reopened after two years. I used it yesterday. It's beautiful, absolutely gorgeous.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: All right. That's great.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: I've worked on it for two years, and they finally did it.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Two years, all right.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: $42,000.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: They found the money for that.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: They found the money for it.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: We discussed that.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Well, congratulations.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Finally.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: A squeaky wheel sometimes
gets the grease.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** I guess.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Right now, there's no plan for replacing or renovating Central. There was $50 million in private money specified in the bond issue, and that has not been raised, and no one really expects it to be raised, so there's not enough money to renovate the remaining 23 branches, and we have too many small branches with low utilization and high cost.

So we have some challenges ahead, and the budget is one way in which we can address that. The facilities, an updated facilities plan, which we need to start on once we get the budget done is the second part of that.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Are we going to rely on the report that was to be received October 2nd, and in February on maintenance issues needed to the beginning of the facility plan, or are you suggesting addressing it in another fashion?

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** I'm not sure I understood your question.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** You gave us two dates that they're going to -- okay, Paul, I'm sorry. You gave us two dates that they're going to have
reports ready.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yeah. One is going to be the end of April beginning of May, and that will be 66 buildings. It includes all the library system, which it also includes Central.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: So could we use that as the basis to begin a review of the Facility Master Plan, or should we be initiating a different look at the branches?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: I think Central is really the most that they've listened to that conversation, and see what the opinions on Central. That's a big one for them right now, and it's going to take time. It's going to take some months to do it, and you really want to get Central going. Central has a lot of problems.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Yes.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: We're talking about HVAC systems. You realize that all the elevator caps have to be replaced. Motors should be replaced on them, and those caps are expensive to take those out and replace them. A lot of them could break down.

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: The elevators?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yeah.
MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: We have one that's been out of order now since last November, December.

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: Yeah. So ...

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: I suggest this Board come together and decide what they would like to see happen at Central, and make it a proposal to the County Commission.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: I think we've got to look at here's where, you ask for money to do that, and the Board of Commissioners should be asking us to do that, and they have asked us to do that, or at least two of them have, but you can't really deal with Central unless you have an overall plan of service for the entire community, because is there another location that could serve the population that currently serves Central or is served by Central, and so it's a complicated question, and I think we've got to just go ahead and start the process.

Say we need an updated facilities plan. Part of it was this maintenance issue, and then we need to have a decision on how many facilities we need to have, so we don't spend maintenance money fixing facilities that we aren't required, so I really need to go in parallel, start sooner,
rather than wait until April to start then, if we can, but we need the Board of Commissioners to support that, because I don't think we have a budget right now for an updated facility plan.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** It's true they would not even give us a budget to do a canvas of the area to ask constituents what they wanted in a downtown library, so to get money to help us plan --

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** That should be part of it.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** But just to remind you, the clock is ticking.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** That's why we need to start sooner than later, and I think it would be good for us to take a look at the process that went through the last facilities' plan, and say, what was done then, and do we want to repeat that, or do we do something different, so do we have any documents that say hear was the process for --

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** We have not been able to find anything that gives us the process. We just have the document that was turned in to the Commissioners, which is the actual Facility Master Plan, but what went into making it, there's no documentation that we can find. We've looked.
MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Who was involved?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: John Szabo.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Was Anne involved?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Anne Haimes, to some extent.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: The entire Board was involved. We met on a regular basis to discuss every area. We hired the Sizemore Group.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Sizemore Group would have a -- they obviously got paid to do this.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: They came up with a plan based on existing places of libraries, and determined an area that was underserved if the branch was not of a certain size or too much distance at to be traveled to get to the branch, and their solution was to plug little libraries in, and the Board rejected that conclusion, saying they would rather build bigger libraries, and in fact, we would not even build a library less than 10,000 square feet, and so we did not plug in those little ones.

We said where could we put a bigger branch that would serve more people and be more centrally located. Then we went -- we plotted those, and we went to every community and had a meeting, in some
communities, people didn't even show up; others, they showed up in droves, saying they wanted it, so it was a gradual process of deciding where we were undeserving the community. For instance, Palmetto had nothing, and trying to make sure that we put a branch library there.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Could you put some notes together based on that process, and can we reach out to Sizemore and find out what work they actually did?

**MS. GAYLE HOLLoman:** Right. We can. I know the resulting document, but as far as the written process, I don't of one, but --

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** I'm saying Sizemore was the consulting firm.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLoman:** Right. Exactly.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Consulting firms do keep documents called "proposals and work plans," so it would be useful to us to -- over the next meeting or two, to create what we'd like to do in terms of a facilities plan, and it will be useful to see what we did last time.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** There's a little difference, though, in that. At this time, we feel like that we are meeting the needs of the
population by facility location, as a matter of fact, some areas, we're over meeting the needs, because of a lack of use of the branch.

What we're looking for now is how to make each facility we have more robust, more favorable and less expensive, and I think Gayle will support this: A bigger branch is almost -- cost the same to run, personnel wise, as some of the smaller branches, because you can't run a branch with just one person.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** No, you have to have at least -- we've determined that you need to have at least four people, but the thing is something has to be decided about what do we want to be. Do want to continue to try to be everything to everybody, which is very costly, and so politically speaking, it becomes a hotbed, because the fact that we have a lot of the public to view us having these wonderful neighborhood libraries where you can just step out your door, almost, and go to the library, but can we continue to afford to do that is the question, so we build -- the larger libraries allow us to do so much more, and present so much more, but then you have a situation of transportation for a lot of people.
Can they get to those facilities? They're telling us that they can't, so right now, there's a debate that's brewing about turning some of the small ones that we thought might get closed, or that are supposed to be closed because of the Facility Master Plan, they're now willing to turn those into computer labs. We still have to staff it. How do we determine --

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Yeah, and if that's going to be on the library budget --

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** -- if you're going to do it.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** -- that's going to make our problem worse --

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** So then you're still right back where you are. We've got three or four people working there now. You're still going to need three or four people working there if you do a computer lab.

What are the hours going to be? People are still going to want evenings and weekends, so it becomes critical. We're at critical mass right now. I think we're primed right now to be reposition the library, and turn it into what it needs to be for a 21st century library, but there
are going to have to be some really, really hard decisions made that are not going to be popular, and so that's where we really are.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** I understand. Mr. Arrington stopped me at the last opening, and described that he wanted to turn these branches into computer labs, and if that's what the community wants, then Fulton County needs to address that, but not through the library system.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** I think what you're saying is exactly right, that we need to start with a plan for the services we need to offer to the community, and it's a planning process, so we need to start that planning process with Gayle, you, and some of your key people, and the Board of Trustees, and I don't whether that starts up the first of the year, or somewhere between now and the first year. We need to get through the budget as a first priority, but then very high on our list of priorities is to start that discussion, and I think we need to talk with Judy -- Director. Is she still planning to come, so we can address that was her in terms of our planning process, because she has helped, I know, DeKalb, do their planning process, and so I think we have
some capacity to do that without a big budget.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Can I just say something about these comparisons of the systems?

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Sure.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** I used to work in the DeKalb Library System. I live in Gwinnett, so I use their library all the time. I've been to Forsyth many times. I'm very familiar with Cobb, because my son went to school there, and I used to go to their libraries.

We are an urban/suburban. There's a huge disparity there. There's a huge difference there. We have literacy problems that they do not have. We have computer literacy problems that they do not have. We have the need for computers, because a lot more people in our areas do not have access to computers and Wi-Fi, so that makes a huge difference.

I just had a meeting last week with the new CIO of IT, and she's really wanting to work hard with us. She came to us from Georgia State University, and she really wants to work well with us, and work closely work us to address those issues that we're having with regard to Wi-Fi and what have, but it's not apples and apples. It's
very, very different.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** I agree with you completely on that, and I don't think we'll ever be the low-cost system.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Yeah. It just can't be. We're too far apart, and we try to be so much to so many people, that it's a very different process. It's a very different way of doing business, and so I just want to throw that out for the record, because I know for a fact that it's very, very different.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Right.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** It has long been the tradition, the system, to have branches have different functions, such as safe places for children after school, but just as you said, if we're going to try to be everything to everybody, we need the money to do that.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Like you just mentioned, Mrs. Moody, the children in Gwinnett County, they don't have a program of afterschool. We moved out there years ago. I was very shocked after having lived in DeKalb County and had afterschool programs at the school and all that. That doesn't exist. You're supposed to figure out how you're
either going to be home, or you're going to have
someone pick your child up. That doesn't exist.

In the inner-city, that's a very different
situation. They're used to someplace for children
to go after school. If they don't go to the
school, they come to the library, or they do both.
They go to afterschool for a few hours, and they
come to the library until later, so it's a very,
very different situation, and I just want it to be
understood that what we do in the libraries have a
lot more to do with than books.

We are somewhat of a babysitting service in a
way. We have homework help after school. I
remember when I was a children's librarian, how
the manager had us all come out from the back of
whatever we were doing at 3:00 when the kids got
out of school, we all stayed on that floor until
we closed, helping children do homework. It
didn't matter what level you were. If you were a
librarian, if you were a paraprofessional, you
came out there and you helped them do those math
problems or whatever you could help them do. That
was the way we did business.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** And if that is the
model that we want for our library system, then
we're doing a good job. I think what Josh is saying, we need to look at the model and decide.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** We do, but if we're basing it all on circulation, then that becomes a real situation, because not everybody is going to have high circulation.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** I think you're right. We need -- measures, not just circulation.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Exactly.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** And some programs won't have circulation.

**MS. JAMILICA BURKE:** Currently, how do you quantify those, like, if it's after school help, or ...

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** I think, typically, you would say -- you count that in the attendance figures, and maybe you qualify that this isn't just somebody walking in the door using the library, but it's an afterschool program that requires more staff support than just somebody checking a book in and out, and we need to have different measures for different activities, and then we need to decide which activities are needed at the various branches, so the budgeting process, if we had time, would be an activity-based budget.
that builds up from the ground, and we would say how many hours, how many activities, what's the work content required. Maybe next year, we'll get to that, but this year, we've got to deal with what we've got.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Have we ever partnered with any schools where they would send teachers in to work in the library?

MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN: Oh, we've tried all sorts of things like that, but the ones in the inner city do have afterschool programs, but it may be to a certain point, a certain time of day and it ends, and so then they'll come to the library after that, or the parent might prefer they come to the library than stay afterschool, so it's really up to what the parent wants to have happen, so if the teachers are needed at school, then we might not be able to get them at the library.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: So part of our facility plan should also look at the proximity of schools, because a school might be able to solve some of that function at the school building, which is already there. Just because they prefer to come to the library, that may not be the best solution
if they're really coming for homework help, if they could stay at the school and get tutoring help there.

**MS. JAMILICA BURKE:** But typically, when you have an afterschool program at school, there's a cost involved in it, even if it's being paid through a grant, or the parents are paying for it themselves.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Exactly.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** For the afterschool program?

**MS. JAMILICA BURKE:** For afterschool programs at the schools, and then if you're looking for support here at the libraries, I mean, you'd also have to look at some of the non-profits that are around, or other organizations, youth development organizations like a Boys and Girls club or YMCA as well, whatever the close proximity is to our libraries, and maybe partnerships can be done there.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** We have that type of relationship with the Thomasville Heights Library. The Boys and Girls Club right across the distance from them, so they walk across the yard, and they go and we do programs over there.
They come to things at Thomasville, but Thomasville is so small. It doesn't have a meeting room or anything, so if we want to do something big, we do it over at the Boys and Girls Club, so they've had that relationship for years. That's just one example, and it's worked very well, but that still doesn't exist everywhere, so that becomes a problem.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** I think this is a very good document. I'm guessing you're sharing this with your County Commissioner.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** We've presented this to Lee and to Paul on September 29th.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Are there any more discussion regarding this document?

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** Well, I do want to say something about circulation of materials, and high volume of some materials. We have a large collection at the Central Library. It has not been weeded properly over many, many years, and that affects these numbers greatly.

It's very hard to get the staff to see how it really affects us adversely, because they think hanging onto all the books in the world is the best thing to do, and that really hurts us when
we've got too many volumes of things, perhaps. Maybe we need to keep one or two, but maybe not 16 copies of something, so that adds to these numbers.

Central has the highest collection. It doesn't have the highest circulating collection, but it has the highest collection, and a lot of the argument becomes, well, we have collections that have been well-developed over the years. These other systems get rid of all their books, and they don't have the richness of our collections. Well, that becomes a little bit debatable.

So we really need to narrow down our collection development process, and we do have things in place where they're supposed to follow procedures, collection HQ, and it's procedurally written out as to how to weed your collections. It gives you the ages and all the information you need to do that. The problem has been staff being held to that, and that's where we've got to do a better job of.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Okay.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: I ordered two books from hold from the system, which were not at my
branch, and we had one copy of each. They are paperback, dog eared, torn, marked up. They are pathetic, and yet, that's what counts as part of our circulation. Now, I'm glad we had the book, so I think there's a reason to keep some books past what might be its normal shelf life.

**MS. GAYLE HOLLOMAN:** But we have to have money for replacements. When you get them dog eared and torn like that, the idea is if they're circulating and people are wanting them, then we ought to find a way to replace them, but to find a way, you've got to have funding, and so we do have a thing about replacements.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** At the end of the day, a lot of our problems revolve around funding.

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Yeah.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Can we move forward?

**MR. JOSH TAYLOR:** Uh-huh.

**MS. STEPHANIE MOODY:** Thank you. The attorney suggested that we ratify any action items, but we already discussed this, and said that we decided there was no action items to discuss, so we can skip that.

Item 10, Board Training, October 28th, I did canvas the Board. Ms. Walker said she has about
an hour and a half program that she's already
presented at libraries on board training. It's
going to make for a long day, but it does save you
making more than one trip. She's available that
day. She's agreed to come, and so I just am
confirming this date that we're doing board
training on that item, and --

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: What time?

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: 2:15, and then we will
have a 4:00 board meeting, so I will be a long
day, but while she's there -- and she has also not
only agreed to be on the search team, she's
requested to be on the search team, so if we have
any questions for here then, that will give us a
chance to meet her.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: I'd like to make a motion
to adjourn, so that we can go to the executive
session.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Is there any other new
business or old business that needs to be
discussed?

We have not been through the Board book in
detail on any of the finances circulation or other
figures.

MR. JOSH TAYLOR: This is a special meeting,
and that was not the agenda, so ...

   MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: Okay. Well, I didn't
   know if there were any questions regarding this.
   We can take the Board book up at the October
   meeting.

   MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Is there a second for a
   motion to adjourn?

   MS. ZENOBIA CLAXTON: I don't want to be out
   of order. Can I speak?

   MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Sure.

   MS. ZENOBIA CLAXTON: I was just told by the
   Denval that you have to follow this. If executive
   session is not on this agenda, you can't go into
   executive session.

   MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: We can't discuss
   personnel issues. It is up there: Director's
   Search Update.

   MS. ZENOBIA CLAXTON: Okay.

   MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: We can't discuss that
   in the public.

   MS. ZENOBIA CLAXTON: I was just relaying it.

   MR. JOSH TAYLOR: Yeah. I think we're going
   to go ahead and go to executive session.

   MS. ZENOBIA CLAXTON: Okay.

   MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: So we have a motion to
adjourn.

Do we have a second?

MR. PAUL KAPLAN: I second.

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: All in favor?

(Whereupon, all said "Aye.")

MS. STEPHANIE MOODY: We are adjourned, so the rest of the -- we will go into executive session in just a few moments to discuss the Director's Search, which is on the Agenda.

(ADJOURNED AT 11:49 AM)
Atlanta-Fulton Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

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LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

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Systemwide Highlights

September was an exciting month at the library. In honor of Library Card Sign-up Month, the entire library system staff encouraged library use by going outside of the brick and mortar to contact and bring patrons in and get them to visit the Library on a regular basis. Many branches conducted library card drives throughout the county advertising our services and more importantly issuing library cards to gain access to books and much more.

The Fulton County Library System has had a long lasting partnership with the Children’s Museum of Atlanta and this year is like no other. Due to the recent renovation to that facility, the library was afforded the opportunity to have regular free programs sponsored by the Children’s Museum. The following programs offered lots of fun filled excitement for 30 libraries in the month of September. The programs included “Music to my ears”, “Fun with Science” and “Fun with Cooking and healthy eating”.

Adams Park

The new partnership with Another Level Learning Tutoring Center has become a great success. They have agreed to conduct a free tutoring service for elementary school children at Adams Park Library every Monday evening. Parents/patrons are excited about the program. More than 60 parents have registered their children for the tutoring sessions.

New material is consistently coming in. Patrons are gravitating to the new materials. Bookshelves have been rearranged for better viewing.

There was also a promotion, Have a Blind Date with a Book, display- The books were wrapped in paper so the patrons couldn’t see the book cover, or the title, until they checked the books out. It may be a title/author they have never read, but will enjoy. Many were skeptical and didn’t want to chance it. However, others took great risks and checked out the materials any way. Many patrons admitted they were quite surprised that they enjoyed the selected books.

Adamsville

The Library hosted a make and take craft in honor of Grandparents Day. The excited participants made a key –wind chimes for their grandparent.

Story time is taking off. Staff offered three story times and each attendee was issued a library card application. The themes for the story times were “Back to School” and “Hello Autumn.”
The Library hosted local author, H. Jean Gray for a panel discussion of her book *The Truth about Parenting*. Ms. Gray and her panel talked about the need for more old school parenting in the community. Her panel consisted of a local minister, an Atlanta Public Schools teacher, and a City of Atlanta Police gang task force representative and they each brought an interesting perspective to the table.

Basic one-on-one tutorials with patrons on how to use the computers and various websites continue daily. Many patrons are job hunting and creating and printing resumes. Other patrons are using the library to re-certify for their food and housing benefits.

The patrons are browsing and checking out more materials. The quality of new books selected for the branch is more appealing to patrons.

Branch displays featured themes such as “Readers are Leaders” and “The More You Read, the More You Know,” “Back to School Resources” and “Emergency Preparedness.”

Alpharetta

September was an exceptionally busy month for staff, especially with the uptick in circulation, the interfiling of the old collection, and the unboxing and processing of the 8,000 additional new materials which were delivered at the end of August. Patrons really like our meeting rooms and auditorium and they are booked frequently.

Staff offered many tours of the new building. Groups of teachers and students from Independence High School visited and signed up for library cards, senior citizens from the YMCA’s Active Seniors group also visited and signed up for cards, and finally, ESL students from Gwinnett Tech visited for a tour and library cards. All who visited were thrilled by the new building and all it offers.

Clearly, the close proximity to downtown Alpharetta, City Hall, and such weekly events as Food Truck Thursdays has increased patronage. Word of mouth is spreading about our auditorium, prompting new community organizations to inquire about availability. Overall, study rooms, up to date public computers, and meeting rooms are some of the services that our patrons love. We increased programming this month, adding an all ages Chess Club as well as a second ESL class, with more new programs to come in October.

Auburn Avenue Research Library

During the month of September the Auburn Avenue Research Library (AARL) staff members were engaged in a variety of activities including providing public service to patrons in-house, by telephone and via email. Staff members and volunteers were also engaged in various collection processing and maintenance activities including processing and cataloging of new materials, shelf reading and inventory, shelving book and non-book materials into the research collections, and facilitating a diverse mix of programs and events that promote the AARL’s mission. Staff members attended the Centennial Annual Meeting/Conference of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, community meetings, presented collaborative programmed events, and coordinated exhibition activities.
The Reference and Research Division (RRD) staff members attended system-wide/county-wide training sessions, community meetings, presented collaborative programmed events, and coordinated closing exhibition activities.

The Archives Division (ARD) staff continued to be involved in various scholarly activities which included research services, outreach and assisting researchers; and completed their respective projects and other assigned responsibilities in a timely manner.

The Program Division (PRD) presented and/or co-sponsored five programs and events including book discussions, film screenings, exhibitions, and community discussions on relevant topics impacting and affecting the Black community-at-large.

SPECIAL PROJECTS/ PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

• In recognition of Atlanta Black Gay Pride (2015), the AARL, in collaboration with Hammonds House Museum, hosted a screening of the acclaimed arthouse documentary, *Looking for Langston*. Black British filmmaker, Isaac Julien’s *Looking for Langston* is a lyrical and poetic consideration of revered Harlem Renaissance poet Langston Hughes, as a black gay cultural icon.

• In recognition of Atlanta Celebrates Photography (2015), the AARL, in collaboration with Hammonds House Museum, hosted *Divine Feminine*, an exhibition by light painting photographer, Linda Costa Cheranichit. Inspired by Ifa, the African traditional belief system of the Yoruba people, Cheranichit shared her artistic interpretation of the divine found in everyday women of color.

• In collaboration with the African American Cinema Gallery, and Hammonds House Museum, the AARL staff hosted Len Gibson, President of the African American Cinema Gallery, who discussed his latest publication, “The Untold Story about A Place Called Black Hollywood”. Featuring intimate interviews with a broad cross section of film and television insiders, the book explores how African Americans continue to make a place for themselves in an industry that originally had no place for them.

• The AARL, in collaboration with the Central Library, hosted Dr. Violet Showers Johnson, Professor of History and Director of Africana Studies at Texas A&M University, and Dr. Marilyn Halter, Professor of History and American Studies at Boston University, who discussed their latest publication, *African & American: West Africans in Post-Civil Rights America*.

• Bridging the Diasporic divide between Black America and Black Britain, Hammonds House Museum, in collaboration with the AARL staff and Narrative Eye, hosted *Transatlantic Blackness on Film*. The event explored how black racial identities are represented in cinema created by and for Black Britons. Screenings included *Sapphire* and *Burning an Illusion*.

• On Friday, September 25th, Sharon E. Robinson, Interim Research Library Administrator, was invited, and attended a reception for the new Ambassador to the United States, Dr.
Thelma Phillip-Browne from the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis, West Indies. Mrs. Robinson brought greetings on behalf of the AARL and the Fulton County Library System to over 200 guests and dignitaries in attendance. The reception was hosted by the President and members of the St. Kitts and Nevis Association of Atlanta (SKANAA) in Duluth, Georgia.

- Staff attended the AARL’s technology meetings to discuss creating the digital content for all of the video viewing areas at the AARL. Digital content has to be created for the video walls located in the lobby area on the first floor, the mobile walls in the gallery, and the monitors located in the small gallery, the vitrine, & second floor lobby. We have also been discussing the re-opening day exhibits that will be featured at the library.

- The Reference and Research Division (RRD) staff completed tagging the first floor reference books and has begun scanning.

- First Thursday Downtown Arts Walk:
  Due to its temporary closure, the Auburn Avenue Research Library will present upcoming exhibitions at its AARL Satellite Gallery locations at the Hammonds House Museum and at the Central Library. Exhibitions on view included the following:

  *Divine Feminine* by light painting photographer, Linda Costa Cheraichit. Inspired by Ifa, the African traditional belief system of the Yoruba people, also known as Candomble in the artist’s native country, Brazil. The artist shares her artistic interpretation of the divine found in everyday women of color. Presented in collaboration with Hammonds House Museum, the exhibit is on view from September 13, 2015 – November 1, 2015. Venue: Hammonds House Museum

The Reference and Research and Archives Divisions’ staff members received inquiries about the library’s closure, pending re-opening and access to research materials. However, of particular note are the following reference queries –

- Assata Shakur autobiography; books by L.A. Banks (*The Ancestors*, 2008 and *Minion*, 2004); Carnegie Library images (the original library building at 126 Carnegie Way); environmental justice books for a visiting author; obtaining a *Negro Digest* (Nov. 1951) article photocopy; and *Savannah Tribune* [microfilm] searching (1955).

- For a person interested in Rev. J. M. Gates (1884-1945) and any living family, three obituaries were attached for interim administrator to forward. Suggested referral to Emory was made for Lerone A. Martin, *Selling to the Souls of Black Folk Atlanta, Reverend J. M. Gates, the Phonograph, and the Transformation of African American Protestantism and Culture, 1910-1945*, Ph.D., Emory, 2011 (online there) and CDs or streaming audio of his *Complete Recorded Works in Chronological Order* (Marian K. Heilbrun Music Media Collection, DiscoverE). The researcher was also referred to a local historian in Atlanta who is knowledgeable about the life of Rev. Gates

- For a young researcher interested in Sonji Roi Clay Glover, the first wife—1964-65--of then-Cassius Marcellus Clay, the 2005 *Chicago Sun Times* obituary was provided. Remarried
with children before and after Mr. Ali, she died at age 59. In addition, rare book entitled
*GOAT –Greatest of All Time: A Tribute to Muhammad Ali* by Benedikt Taschen (2004, Archives B ALI) proved to be a useful source.

- For a researcher interested in the social life and customs in Durban, South Africa, a DVD (*Rough Aunties*, 2008) and a several reference books were recommended.

- Assistant Professor of African American Studies, Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia, online visitation, research work focused on The Chemical Key to Black Greatness. Collection and finding aids used: Andrew Young Papers.

- Researcher from Jacksonville, Florida, visited the Archives Division, whose research work focused on her forthcoming book about Jacksonville’s long gone Sugar Hill Neighborhood. Collection and Finding aids used: Weems Photograph Collection.

- Researcher from Wichita, Kansas, online visitation requested digital scanned portrait photograph of Donald Hollowell for one time display honoring Donald Hollowell – Kansan native son. Collection and finding aids used: Donald Hollowell Papers.

*Staff Training/Professional Development:*

- Sharon E. Robinson attended and participated in a Round Table discussion at the Centennial Annual Meeting and Conference of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) held in Atlanta, Georgia from September 23 – 27, 2015. ASALH, organized in 1915, is the founding organization of Black History Month and is observing its 100th anniversary this year. Mrs. Robinson’s session was entitled *Africana Information Professionals Collaborating, Networking and Supporting ASALH Branches*. The session included Vivian Fisher, of the Enoch Pratt Free Library; Doretha Williams, from Georgia Washington University and was chaired by Johnnieque Blackmon Love, from the University of Maryland’s libraries.

- Gloria J. Mims, Librarian Senior, served on the Local Arrangement Committee and attended the Centennial Annual Meeting and Conference of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) held in Atlanta, Georgia from September 23 – 27, 2015.

- Carolyn L. Clark, Librarian II, also attended the Centennial Annual Meeting and Conference of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) held in Atlanta, Georgia from September 23 – 27, 2015.

- Staff attended the Decatur Book Festival held on September 5th and 6th, 2015 in Decatur, Georgia. Several author talks were attended including Haitian-American born author, Roxanne Gay (*Bad Feminist: Essays*, 2014).
DATA AND STATISTICS
Archives Division

September Monthly Activities | Count
---|---
Basic Instructions About the Archives | 3
Collection Requests | 7
Reading Room Activity | 5
Requests for Finding Aids | 7
Requests for Photographs | 17
Collection Boxes Processed/Work-in Progress | 15
Finding Aids Completed/Work-in-progress | 2
Online / Email Research Transactions | 10
In-House Research Transactions | 5
Phone Calls Received/Returned Calls | 20
Archives Visits | 7
Archives & Manuscripts Materials Requested | 407
Staff request & other activities | 7
Collection Items Processed  in Linear Feet | 16

Program Division
- Number of Programs: 5
- Total Program Attendance: 101

- Presented Exhibits: 1
- Total Exhibit Attendance: 85

Reference and Research Division
- Books Added to Collection – 93
- Journals/Magazines Added to Collection – 33
- Media (DVDs-5; Microfilm-26; Music CDs-; Spoken-) Added to Collection – 31
- Newsletters Added to Collection – 4
- Newspapers Added to Collection – 207
- New Books Received – 41
- New Media Received - 5
Reference Questions Answered and Computer Usage
- Directional Questions – 84
- Questions Referred – 8
- Ready Reference Questions – 58
- Research Consultations (mailed-1; emailed-2; telephone-0; in person-10) – 13
- Research Items Requested – 65
- Ready Reference Telephone Inquiries – 18

Patron/Researchers
- Patrons/Researchers Served – 72

Total for the Year
- Books Added to Collection – 1190
- Media Added to Collection – 102
- Serials (Journals/Magazines/Newsletters/Newspapers) Added to Collection – 2354
- New Books Received – 863
- New Media Received – 62
- Directional Questions – 709
- Questions Referred – 77
- Ready Reference Questions – 880
- Research Consultations – 167
- Research Items Requested – 954
- Ready Reference Telephone Inquiries – 282
- Patron/Researchers Served – 1046

Buckhead

There was a steady increase in library card applications requested and processed. This month marked the first full month of processing online library card applications. Staff processed 58 online library card applications as well as 281 library card applications in-house.

The branch is utilizing the reports of Collection HQ to assist with the weeding of the collection.

The annual teen photography contest entries were finalized and placed on display in the teen center. That photography contest complements the Atlanta Artist Center’s (AAC) annual photography exhibit. The branch is filled with the AAC exhibit in addition to the display in the teen center. The AAC graciously judges the contest, invites teens to participate in their artist reception and promotes the contest throughout the city.

The branch continued offering adult programming. The number of participants for Yoga increased. To enhance the program, some of the new books received about yoga were displayed. The monthly jazz concert sponsored by the John Robertson Trio and Rosemary Rainey was well received. The Buckhead Writers Group continues to grow. The branch welcomed representatives from Community Outreach for Financial Education (COFFE). They presented
“Get out of Debt in Nine Years or Less.” The workshop covered managing debts including mortgages.

In addition to offering story time, our children’s librarian accepted the challenge of educating our customers about the wealth of electronic information available at the Fulton County Library System. There are flyers and instructions about databases specifically for children available in the department. In addition, he has incorporated resources for the entire family, too.

Carver Homes

September began with requests from both senior centers, High Point and Veranda, for library card drives. Since the last library card drives for seniors, last year, many new residents have moved into these facilities with no knowledge of the library services that are available to them both on site and in the branch libraries. So abbreviated drives were held to update and renew the current library card holders and another drive was scheduled for newer residents by the end of the year. The movie, “The Bucket List” was shown to the group.

The branch again became a resource for the afterschool program at the Carver Family YMCA. Deposit collections of juvenile, picture, and easy books, along with encyclopedias were loaned to the center for use by students enrolled in their afterschool program.

On Saturday September 19th, Carver staff participated in the Annual Welcome Back to School Day sponsored by the Villages@Carver and their numerous partners. Health care workers, community volunteers, parents and children enjoyed a day filled with entertainment and food. And at the end of the day every child went home with a new book bag filled with school supplies and snacks. Library cards were issued and complimentary library logo bags and pens were surprises that made the Library System the topic of discussion during the day.

Job searching is a daily activity at Carver. As more companies are requiring resumes attached to online job applications, staff noticed that more and more patrons are asking for help learning the uploading process. Much time is spent daily helping patrons understand the use of zip drives in this process. A workshop is being planned for interested patrons before Carver closes for relocation.

Carver has entered into a new partnership with Metro Fair Housing Services, Inc. They are a private, not-for-profit corporation serving metropolitan Atlanta and surrounding areas. This group is dedicated to eliminating housing discrimination and promoting equal opportunity in housing in compliance with federal and state Fair Housing Laws. The organization was founded in 1974, and is the only private, full service, fair housing organization engaged in Education and Outreach, Intake and Counseling, and Enforcement (testing for fair housing law violations and pursuing meritorious claims). Carver’s role with the Fair Housing group is to advertise services by displaying flyers in the library’s INFORMATION STATION (stand) and to recommend their services to patrons who indicate housing issues.
Central

This month the Circulation and Customer Service Department installed a display on the first floor in honor of National Library Card Month. The display informed patrons about the various services offered to owners of a Fulton County Library System library card.

The Interim Central Library Administrator met with Mr. Michael Haverty and Ms. Dorothy Bell of 7 Stages Theatre located on Euclid Avenue in Little Five Points. They are interested in sponsoring three events at the Central Library in order to fulfill their NEA Big Read grant. We are planning to hold these events sometime between January and February of 2016. The book being read is *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury.

Thirteen branches, including the Central Library partnered with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) in conjunction with the City of Atlanta to create Citizenship Corners. Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed signed a letter of agreement recently to begin a partnership to strengthen citizenship education and awareness efforts. The agreement will remain in effect until December 2017. “Our partnership with Atlanta will strengthen local efforts to help aspiring citizens find the information and resources needed to succeed during the naturalization process,” a representative from USCIS said. “USCIS is proud to join forces with Mayor Reed to expand citizenship education and awareness efforts and to support permanent residents as they consider the rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizenship.”

At a signing at City Hall, Mayor Reed “highlighted the need to incorporate all sectors of society in a determined effort to support aspiring citizens and create more welcoming communities. They discussed plans to establish ‘Citizenship Corners’ at the Fulton County Library System to make official USCIS citizenship preparation materials more easily accessible to newcomers. USCIS also plans to train librarians and other city officials about the naturalization process and the free preparation resources available to immigrant library patrons.”

At the library’s September Agency Meeting Ms. Luisa F. Cardona, Deputy Director of Immigrant Affairs for the City of Atlanta and Ms. Edly Vliet, Community Relations Officer for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, spoke to library staff about the partnership and the various types of programming being offered to library patrons.

Workforce Development moved its furniture from the fourth floor of the Central Library.

**Adult Programming, Outreach and AV**

In the month of September there were a total of 85 AV items used in the Central Library and by other branches. Staff set up audiovisual equipment for 33 events held at the Central. There were a total of 36 programs that benefited from items housed in the AV Department.

To kick off Library Card Sign Up Month, Outreach Department staff visited Bear Creek Middle School on September 1st and worked with the Branch Manager from the Palmetto Branch Library. While there, staff registered 20 teachers, staff, students, and babies for new library cards. There was also an information session about the eCampus tools available to the students to help them have a successful school year.
On September 10th staff participated in Commissioner Marvin Arrington’s District Dialogue. Staff spoke on behalf of the library and told attendees about the eCampus databases and the new Metropolitan Library’s upcoming grand opening that would be happening on October 1, 2015. Many in the meeting were interested in the opening dates of the new Metropolitan Library and the Southeast Atlanta Library.

September 14th was the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Resource Fair. It was held at the Juvenile Justice Center, next to, and in conjunction with, the Mechanicville Library. While there, many stopped at the library’s table to get information about tools that can be used by the family, from books to technology. GED information and eCampus tools were also discussed at the event.

September 19th was an outreach event done in cooperation with the Atlanta 911 Call Center. Atlanta Public Safety Day in the Park was an event that took place in the area that will be serviced by the new Metropolitan Library and was well attended by many of the 911 Call Center staff members. Outreach assistance was supplied by Fairburn Library staff member, Lisa Randolph and Volunteer Services staff member, Edith Wallace. The day was full of fun and information that many of the community found helpful and said that they would use in the future.

On September 28th and 29th staff visited Stonewall Tell Elementary School and spoke to talented and gifted students in grades 1 through 4 about library cards and eCampus databases. While there, the students practiced with several of the eCampus tools and an assignment was given for them to register for the testing for 4th grade Milestones practice.

Circulation staff continued to assist the eCampus Coordinator with presentation of Library information to new hires of Fulton County. This month 50 cards were processed.

The full BOB Kits were used this month at the Peachtree Branch and at the Atlanta Safety in the Park Event. There has been demand for partial kits at smaller scale/indoor events rather than the entire kit, and they are being sent out as requested with fast turnaround when not attached to the full kit, so this may be a practice that is continued into the next year.

Special Projects
Circulation Supervisor, Valerie Selby and Richard Bridges, Library Assistant Senior, at the East Roswell Library, were selected to represent the Library on the County’s Strategy Team. This team meets for 12 weeks to discuss outcomes and indicators of progress and performance for the County and residents of Fulton County. There are six outcomes that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners has established as the strategic priorities for the County. They will help to set the aspirations for what Fulton County must do and do well. The priority areas are:

- All people are safe
- All people are healthy
- All people are self-sufficient
- All people are culturally and recreationally enriched
- All people trust that Fulton County government is effective, efficient and fiscally sound.

The team has measured the awareness, opportunity, usage, quality, and impact and enrichment for parks, libraries and arts and culture. The team will meet with the following commissioners
on October 5, 2015: Commissioner Arrington, Commissioner Ellis and Commissioner Ellis and with our tollgate managers, Gayle Holloman from the Library, and Tae Earl-Jackson from Arts & Culture; this meeting will inform the commissioners of the strategy and indicators that the team discussed.

*Circulation Staffing and Training*
Due to a shortage in staffing in several areas of the library the circulation staff will be working and learning how to work in other areas of the library, so that as we go forward if there is a need in another department the staff will be better equipped to fill the assignment. The staff will not be working out of class but they will be building their skillsets for other opportunities that could become available as staff is promoted, retire, or leave the Library System for any reason.

*Circulation Services*
The Interim Central Library Administrator along with Collection Development staff participated in the monthly SIRSI SureSailing Call. Library staff worked with the SIRSI consultant to assist with the backlog of items referenced on the *Holds Purchase Alerts* report.

Cheryl Small, Clay Payne, Evette Bridges, and staff from Metropolitan, College Park, and other branches along with IT staff of Fulton County, attended one day training with Comprise. The training was hands on with staff from Comprise and introduced everyone to the new technology now located throughout all the libraries. Training covered all new equipment that allows for:

- Billing
- Computer log-in/registration
- Computer admin duties at the Circulation Desk
- Fine and fee payment
- Printing
- Customer service tools

After training on the equipment and the hands on training at the new libraries, the attendees are now called “super-users.” They are resources to troubleshoot issues with equipment and to assist with the training needs of other public service staff.

*General Collections and Ivan Allen Jr. Reference Department*
September was a productive time for library staff members as they shepherded in programs and performed their daily library work. Staffers were involved in the following programs: Hispanic Heritage Celebration; Muslim Poetic Voices display and programs; and an urban romance author, AlTonya Washington’s program.

*Art Exhibits*
The August-September Lower Level Gallery exhibit entitled “Celebrate the Future” and presented by the Atlanta Artists Center, was up through Friday, September 18th but due to the Labor Day holiday weekend, a First Thursday Art Reception was not held in September.

By way of numerous emails and telephone conversations, staff coordinated the logistics for the upcoming Atlanta Celebrates Photography Exhibition 2015. The Library’s Atlanta Celebrates Photography exhibit this year is actually comprised of two exhibits, one presented by Arthur
Ratliff entitled “Passport to China” and one presented by Brad Perkins entitled “Our World.” Photographer, Arthur Ratliff presents visitors with a passport to see China, visiting the small towns where time has stood still and ancient culture still prevails, as well as encountering the explosive growth of Shanghai, the world’s largest and fastest growing city. A master of macro and micro photography, Brad Perkin’s images reflect his investigative nature, recording the awe-inspiring beauty and diversity of nature as well as capturing the essence of the human condition at any given moment in time and history.

The Atlanta Celebrates Photography Exhibit was installed on Saturday, September 19th and will be up through Friday, October 30th.

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15 through October 15, 2015, a new exhibit by Vanessa Lopez Pavonini, a self-taught artist from Ecuador, was installed on the small gallery wall in the Ivan Allen Jr. Reference Department. Ms. Lopez is inspired by architecture, music, and anthropology. Her Surrealist series of artworks were developed while she was in high school and were inspired by the connection between humanity and earth.

Hispanic Heritage Film Festival
Staff spearheaded the annual Hispanic Heritage Film Festival through an appreciation of its rich culture and history. Beginning on September 17th, patrons enjoyed a film about Cesar Chavez, and on September 24th, patrons viewed the film Rebel.

El Dia De La Familia (Family Fun Day) was a Sunday afternoon full of Mexico style entertainment. Several dancers and a singer were in their colorful traditional costumers. They sang songs of heartbreak and love as well as fun songs to handclap to as they performed. Staff gave the audience the history of each performance. Children were able to make and take crafts to remember the day. Thirty-five people attended the event.

The dancers, a singer, and crafts were sent free of charge thanks to Antonio Rodriguez and Lizbeth Cardenas of Dancando Promotions. Staff prepared three displays for Hispanic Heritage Month in the General Collections Department.

General Collections
A Librarian selected books on United States Government and human rights for the Citizenship Corner on the first floor.

General Collections had five volunteers in September for a total of 81 hours worked.

Ivan Allen Jr., Reference Department (IAD)
Interlibrary Loan staff was extremely busy this month. Interlibrary Loan training sessions will be held on October 14th and 15th.

Virtual Reference
According to tally sheets and departmental logs, the Library’s remote reference units processed 1,738 information transactions this month (29 days) with a daily average of 59.9.
September’s total was significantly lower than last month’s because staffers had to answer the x4636 line and respond to LiveHelp chat from the second floor desk while doing in-person reference at the same time due to computer issues which led to down time in Virtual Reference.

LiveHelp chat sessions: 58; daily average: 2.0; telephone questions: 1,583; chat questions: 71; total deferrals: 84; email messages: 77;

The most interesting question a librarian had was from a systems engineer at Sun Data Center in Japan. She wanted to know what kind of content management system the library uses.

**Maintenance, Security, and Other**

The Department Manager who serves as the Library Compliance Liaison to the County, posted Title VI posters and prepared a public viewing notebook that contains Fulton County’s policy and other materials on the law.

Ms. Jordan hosted the author program featuring, AlTonya Washington. The Sunday afternoon program was successful, since some of the readers were very pleased to have her in Atlanta to discuss her popular urban romance novels.

**Learning and Career Center**

Despite staff shortages, and printer malfunctions, the department continued to register strong numbers on PC Reservation Usage Report. Total usage for the month of September, 2015 stood at 11,440. This was made possible by the fact that the library is one of the few providers of free public access to computers and the Internet in the community and patrons are grateful for the service.

Again, staff offered one-on-one sessions with patrons who need to apply for jobs online as well as apply for government assistance. A case in point: He is a young man in his early thirties who has just moved to Atlanta from Chicago, Illinois. He said he could not find a job in Chicago so he decided to locate to Atlanta and make something out of himself. In Atlanta, he sought computer and literacy “refuge” at the Central Library, and with help from staff, he was able to prepare his resume. He then started applying for jobs in the downtown area. Fortunately he got a job in one of the hotels in September and is now fully employed. “I tried several times in Chicago to find a job but in vain, Atlanta has been my savior,” he concluded.

As is well-known, one of the library’s success stories has been our GED testing and class program. GED stands for General Educational Development, which is a system of standardized examinations which entitle those who pass them to receive a credential considered as equivalent to completion of high school. For the past five years, over 1,000 candidates have obtained their GED credentials through our program in partnership with the Atlanta Public School System’s Adult Literacy Program. Once again, the annual Georgia Adult Education Fall Conference for GED /Pearson VUE test administrators and instructors was held on September 28th through the 30th at the Grand Hyatt Buckhead Hotel in Atlanta. The library was represented by two staff members who serve as GED/Pearson VUE Chief Test Administrator and eCampus Coordinator.

It was announced at the conference that overall, the number of people testing in Georgia for GED and the success rate are improving. Currently, the state of Georgia is in line with national statistics regarding the percentage of successful graduates. It stands at 70%. The same rate
stood at 50% last year. The incremental jump of success is attributed to the GED instructors’ better grasp of students’ expectations which are incorporated into their lesson plans.

It was also announced that the GED State Office for Georgia has worked out an agreement with PearsonVUE to allow all testing centers in Georgia to offer other tests that are administered through PearsonVUE testing services. This has been done to allow the testing centers to generate more money since GED testing volume is still low compared to previous years.

Noticeably, much of September’s narrative has been devoted to our GED testing program, for it was exactly a year ago in September, 2014 that the library’s new electronic version of the GED exam came online, affectionately called PearsonVUE GED testing.

**Special Collections**
Library Board of Trustees member, Josh Taylor donated eleven items to the Special Collections Department for the Genealogy Collection.

Artist Gregor Turk visited the Special Collections Department to conduct research for a commissioned work to be installed at the Metropolitan Library.

Rhoda Lerman died August 30th, at her home in Port Crane, New York. She was the author of six novels including *Call Me Ishtar* and *Eleanor*. *Eleanor* was turned into a one woman play starring Jean Stapleton and later Loretta Switt. Ms. Lerman visited the Special Collections Department several times to conduct research for a planned series of novels that were to be set in Georgia. Ms. Lerman’s husband and daughter contacted a Librarian in the department to inform him of her passing and thank him for the assistance he provided her in conducting her research. They mentioned that Ms. Lerman thought he had been very helpful and loved his enthusiasm for her work.

The Department’s program schedule included: two “Gone With The Wind” Tours, on the 12th and 25th for a total of 21 patrons. Three “Poetic Voices of the Muslim World” programs were held on the 8th, 22nd, and 29th for a total of 44 attendees. In addition we conducted two school tours from the Children’s Department for 50 patrons. Total program attendance was 115.

IAD’s Rare Book Project: 42 titles were transferred from IAD/General Collections to Special Collections.

Genealogy Self List project: a volunteer added 197 items to the GEN shelf list.

Georgia Self List Project: a volunteer added 213 items to the GA shelf list.

Preservation Projects: major repairs were made to the bindings of four *Criss-Cross Directories*.

Two military multi-volume series were added to the collection this month. Staff was able to add these with the help of Reference Department staff who did the original cataloging work while department staff used the “add copy” feature to include each volume in the catalog. One set totaled 127 volumes and the other holds 100 volumes.
The department received 11 of the titles ordered. Staff discussed the status of outstanding orders with Acquisitions staff. Information for future orders is gathered on an ongoing basis. Forty-two titles were transferred from the Ivan Allen and General Collections Departments to Special Collections. One volume was transferred from the Stewart-Lakewood Branch to Special Collections.

Library Foundation Mini-Grant: Bindery Project - the *Criss-Cross Directories* have been returned having been nicely bound. The bindery has now taken several of the early *Atlanta City Directories* to have special boxes made for them. Staff selected every other year of the initial batch and the bindery will take the rest upon completion of the initial batch.

Poetic Voices: Poetry of the Muslim World - the grant has been formally accepted by the Board of Commissioners. The Poetic Voices exhibit will visit four libraries in 2015. Each library will have the exhibit for three months and is expected to present pre-packaged programs and any additional local programs while the exhibit is on display. The Library will host the exhibit from September through November 2015. ISB arranged a series of 12 adult programs to supplement the four grant funded programs. Program topics include Islamic Art, Islamic Calligraphy, Spoken Poetry, Rap, Cooking, Henna Designs, Islamic architecture, Arabic Music, Pakistani Music, Persian Music, African American Music.

These programs and the four grant funded programs will be presented on Tuesdays. In addition, the Islamic Speakers Bureau has six children’s programs and a Debke dance program all to be presented on Saturdays. We received a commitment from Dr. Sylviane A. Diouf, Curator of Digital Schomburg, Director of the Lapidus Center for the Historical Analysis of Transatlantic Slavery and Director of The Schomburg-Mellon Humanities Institute at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. Dr. Diouf will be presenting a program on Islam and the Blues on Tuesday November 10th.

On September 2th, Kathy Piselli, Librarian II, and John Wright, Librarian, met with Interim Library Director Gayle Holloman to provide a status report on the grant and to outline plans for the three months leading up to the opening of the exhibit and beginning of the planned programming.

General Statistics: two obituary searches were completed; fourteen articles were clipped for the vertical files; five research requests were completed; 1,650 items were used by patrons in the department this month; 497 patrons visited the department this month; and staff answered a total of 641 questions from patrons with 33 coming via the telephone.

**Youth Services: Children’s Department and Teen Center**

This month the Youth Services department collaborated with various departments at Central Library to provide students and teachers with an awesome learning experience about libraries and library resources. Staff partnered with AMLAS, Circulation, Ivan Allen Jr. Department, General Collections, Special Collections, and the Learning and Career Center. Visiting students and teachers enjoyed their time in those departments.
September was Library Card Sign-up Month. The department held library card drives in different locations. Displays were featured in the Children’s Area and the Teen Center, recognizing National Library Card Sign-up month.

In partnership with the Children’s Museum of Atlanta, Central Library’s Children’s Department held its first Books and Brunch. Books and Brunch was held in support of the Spread the Word initiative to help bridge the family literacy gap of residents of the Vine City and English Avenue communities.

Wonderful World of Water Storytime - There were 51 kids and parents who attended the Wonderful World of Water storytime and activity. Most were from the Atlanta Federal Center, but there were also patrons who found out about the program from the website. Participants made a snake to play with and take home. Afterwards, they listened to two stories Stella: Star of the Sea by Marie Louise Gay and Water, Water by Eloise Greenfield.

Books read were: Water, Water by Eloise Greenfield in this book PreSchool-In simple rhyme, Greenfield reminds children of the many places they encounter water. A preschooler walks in the rain, fishes in a river, plays with pool toys, and observes a waterfall; and Stella: Star of the Sea by Marie Louise Gay. In this book Stella and her little brother are spending the day at the sea. Stella has been to the sea before and knows all its secrets, but Sam has many questions. "Where do starfish come from? Does a catfish purr? Does a sea horse gallop?" Stella has an answer for them all. The only thing she isn’t sure of is whether Sam will ever come into the water.

Reading is Grand: Celebrating Grand-families Through Literacy - Families participated in storytelling, learned about literacy, and watched a movie. They also received snacks. There were eight attendees. A grandparents display was also in the Children's area. Families enjoyed watching the movie The Croods. In this movie when their cave is destroyed, the Croods set out to explore a spectacular landscape filled with fantastic creatures, strange surprises, and a whole new world of adventure!

The book read was A Visit to Grandma’s by Nancy Carlson - The first time that Tina and her parents visit Grandma in her new condominium in Florida, they're in for a big surprise. From the moment Grandma shows up at the airport in a flashy new sports car, Tina sees that she's not the same Grandma since she moved from the farm.

All About Insects - Children learned about various insects and their importance through storytelling. Children created a butterfly craft.

Books read were: The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle - This book follows a caterpillar's path as he eats his way through one apple (and the pages of the book itself) on Monday, two pears on Tuesday, three plums on Wednesday, and so on, through cherry pie and sausage--until he is really fat and has a stomachache. And no doubt you know what happens next! Kids love butterfly metamorphosis stories, and this popular favorite teaches counting and the days of the week; and, The Butterfly by Anna Milbourne – In this book children meet a little stripy caterpillar in this pretty picture book. They discover where butterflies come from. There were 48 attendees.
Centennial Academy PTA Meeting - Parents and children signed up for library cards and also received information about library services and resources. There were twenty-one attendees.

Storytime with Cartlanta – The City of Atlanta’s Cartlanta provided storytime for children and parents. Participants learned about recycling and listened to three stories. The participants enjoyed Cartlanta and staff will have them back again at Central.

Books read were: *What does it mean to be green?* by Rana DiOrio. - In this colorful, insightful story, demystified for children what it means to be green by helping them to view everyday tasks through an environmentally-friendly lens. The book empowers children to do whatever they can to protect the earth’s precious resources; *Don’t throw that Away* by Lara Bergen. In this story children followed an eco-conscious super hero as he teaches kids how to recycle and reuse common household items! The six large flaps throughout the book, show that ordinary trash is really a treasure. From turning old clothes into fun costumes or an old box into a brand new car, kids will learn that saving the environment is super cool!; *Why should I recycle?*, by Jen Green. In this story Mr. Jones is a teacher who sets a good example for kids by separating his trash for recycling. When he takes them on a class trip to a recycling plant they learn the value of recycling; and *I can save the Earth* by Alison Inches. In this story children learned about what they can do to be more eco-friendly. The books in this line (Little Green Books) are made from recycled materials, and the storylines cover subjects such as improving the environment, learning about endangered animals, recycling, and much more. There were 56 attendees.

Children's Museum of Atlanta - Children learned through play in the program titled "Fun with Imaginator Scientists." There were 16 participants who created a science experiment using glue, food coloring, popsicle sticks, a cup and a chemical. The result was a slimy color glob. Children had so much fun. They also received snacks. There were 16 attendees.

A Very Healthy Storytime – Fulton County Public Health Educator, Edna Stigger, talked to children about how to stay clean by washing their hands. Children participated in hands-on learning activities, songs, and played a game. It was a wonderful program for all teachers, parents and children; 20 attendees.

Atlanta Federal Center Library Card Drive - This month 35 children at the Federal Center signed-up for library cards after storytime. They also received snacks; 35 attendees.

Books for Babies – One application was completed for the Books for Babies program.

Drop-In Craft – Children and parents made a fall leaf using fall colored tissue paper. There were 16 attendees.

Resume Help for Parents - September was “Update Your Resume Month!” Parents came to receive help with their resume while their children enjoyed a fun activity.

Library Card Drive at Fickett Elementary School - 5th grade students enjoyed a Library staff member’s presentation and participated in a Library Trivia game during the visit. Students who answered questions correctly won a prize. A total of 47 students registered for a library card.
Teen Services
A Library Card Sign-up Month display was made for the Teen Center. There were two school visits to the Central Library by tweens/teens. They learned about library resources and services. A listing of programming is as follows:

The Amazing Race Scavenger Hunt - This month Tweens/teens participated in a scavenger hunt called the Amazing Race. The scavenger hunt introduced students to the various floors and departments within the Central Library. To complete the scavenger hunt, students either toured the library on their own or participated in an organized group tour. There were 83 attendees.

I Want my License – Teens learned about the official site to go to if you want to pass the permit test for Georgia! Participants will have an opportunity to take sample driving permit tests in real time; there were 124 attendees.

School Visit – Staff visited the New Schools at Carver High to conduct a library card drive. They met with three classes (two senior classes and one freshman class). There were 45 library cards issued to students. A total of 65 students attended the library presentations.

An Evening of Spoken Word and Poetry – Teens learned about spoken word and had an opportunity to share original spoken word and poetry.

School Visit - Staff visited Carver High School and conducted three presentations (two presentations for seniors and one presentation for sophomores) about library services, resources (Georgia Driver Test, Tutor.com, Hoopla, and library website). A total of 57 library cards were issued. A total of 90 students attended the presentation. Attendees also played a game with the students and gave away prizes.

School Group Visit – This month 41 students in 4th through 6th grade from New Life Christian Academy toured the Central Library. Students toured floors 1 through 5 and the Lower Level. Special emphasis was placed on Science since the students came with their science teacher. Students learned about searching the library catalog for their Science research topic. Students also learned about the Dewey Decimal System and were given time to go through the stacks to find books for their research topics; 41 attendees.

Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Meeting – Teens met to discuss Teen Center program ideas. The board also received a Library website overview where they learned how to search for books using the Library’s catalog. Participants also completed the Amazing Race scavenger hunt. There were six attendees.

Paying for College Teens – Teens learned about resources such as scholarships available in the Testing and Reference Center database to help pay for college. Teens also learned about Georgia College 411, a website that helps teens and parents prepare for college, and Fast Web, a scholarship matching service for students.

School Group Visit – This month 13 special needs students and two teachers from Tri-Cities High School came to the library for a tour. Students toured floors 1 through 5 and the
basement. Everyone including the teachers signed up for library cards and also participated in the Amazing Race scavenger hunt activity.

Public Speaking 101 – Teens participated in the public speaking workshop. Teens learned about preparing for a speech, delivering a successful speech, gestures and body language. We discussed Toastmasters, table topics and also gave practice speeches. Teens left with a homework speech assignment; seven attendees.

Atlanta Technical College Library Card Drive – College students signed-up for library cards and learned about library services such as E-Campus and Hoopla. They also learned about the Library’s Teen Center and the new Metropolitan Library. Thirty library card applications were dropped off at the Education Center. There were 23 attendees.

Visions Unlimited Program – Non-traditional students were assisted by Ms. Gwen Sands on GED preparation and resumes. Students were referred to library resources such as books, databases, computers, and group study rooms as needed. This month 131 students received help.

Cleveland Avenue

“Grandparents Rock” was a special evening program devoted to both grandparents and non-grandparents. A registered healthcare professional shared vital information about keeping your kidneys healthy. A question and answer session was offered regarding different medical health plans. A community senior advocate also provided information regarding community resources that are available to seniors. The program was concluded with food and grandparents being serenaded with live music by two local musicians. Everyone had a great time. In this ongoing series, the community senior advocate hopes to address topics that are unique to seniors.

The Stitchers of Soul Quilting Group exhibit and reception was held this month at the Cleveland Avenue Library and will continue through the month of October. The Stitchers of Soul is a quilting group that meets twice a month at the library. Over 58 people have attended the exhibit that includes tote bags, pillows, framed pictures, table runners and much more. A display of library books and videos on quilting was made available to compliment the exhibit.

Two community jewelry makers are exhibiting their designs in the library’s large display case. The pieces are unique and very lovely. A book display was created to compliment the exhibit.

The children’s librarian continued her story time programs on Tuesday mornings. The children’s librarian was out with her family one evening and two children approached her and greeted her by saying “look mom, there’s Ms. Frizzle!” Ms. Frizzle is a character from author, Joanna Cole’s Magic School Bus series.

Children from the Gift of Love Center and Aunt Neicy’s Learning Center really enjoyed making glob with Dwayne from the Children’s Museum of Atlanta’s program. Glob is a combination of mixing some harmless substances together for fun. What a clever and fun way to introduce children to science.
College Park

The Month of September proved to be very successful and productive for the College Park Library. Staff attended various community outreach events encouraging library use, registering new users and promoting the Books for Babies program. We were also busy organizing, weeding, displaying, and making the library more attractive. Patrons have expressed that they appreciate that we are upgrading and improving the library.

The Department of Public Works provided the workshop “Let’s Learn about the Water Cycle” where children learned the importance of water conservation.

Television and Film Costume Designer, Mrs. Prozi Ramphal read Dr. Seuss stories to the children and shared some aspects of her job.

We celebrated National Coffee Day with coffee provided by Chick-Fil-A at Camp Creek Parkway and Omnitech career training school spoke with adults about career training opportunities at their school.

Staff provided an eCampus workshop for the Future Foundation at Banneker High School. We also processed over 100 library cards for the students.

Dogwood

The Dogwood Library signed up many new library users in schools through our outreach with the media specialists. Catching them young is the cornerstone of our literacy campaign in 2015. Staff partnered with the schools in the community again this year to improve reading among children. One of such partnerships is with Grove Park Elementary School, where the Dogwood Library took books over to the media center for the students to read. The Friends of the Dogwood Library is providing incentives for the children to read.

In addition, we organized a wellness fair for parents and grandparents. The program was well attended. There was a section at the wellness fair solely dedicated to grandparents as part of Grandparent’s Day.

The Friends of the Dogwood Library organized a very successful book sale which lasted for three weeks.

East Atlanta

East Atlanta Library staff met with several schools and local organizations to encourage parents, youth, and caregivers to sign up for a library card.

The branch was busy this month celebrating Grandparents Day, Talk Like a Pirate Day, and Hispanic Heritage Month. The staff held 17 juvenile programs including story times, a new weekly math club, a homeschool group tour of the library, and school outreach visits to Drew
Charter Elementary, Burgess-Peterson Academy, Light of the World Christian Academy, and We Are the Future Daycare Center. We started a weekly Crazy 8’s Math Club for kindergarten through 5th grade students and recruited teen volunteers from Maynard Jackson High School to help run the math club.

In addition, we created teen displays highlighting library programs including, the Chess Workshop, the ACT Strategy Session, and the Extreme Book Club program during Teen Read Week. We are also excited to announce that we have started a Teen Advisory Board at the branch that meets once per week just before the Crazy 8’s Math Club.

**East Point**

September was a busy month for us here at East Point. We continue to build on our success from summer reading with our children’s programs. We have started to add adult programming into the mix. We had three adult programs that covered a diverse subject matter, from vacationing in our own great state of Georgia, to business development, and cooking for the family. We plan to build upon this success by adding teen programs, especially for Teen Read Week in October.

The Kaiser Permanente Vegetable Soup Program was offered for children. Participants had lots of fun! In addition, we now offer an Introduction to Chess on Saturdays, for ages 8 and up.

Staff participated in the Parklane Elementary School Curriculum Night. There were 150 people present and staff signed up new users and promoted the library.

For adults, the Connect the Dots email marketing business workshop was a success. Staff hosted Commissioner Arrington’s District Dialogue on September 8th.

**East Roswell**

The branch had a great start to the fall programming season. We were able to add two of our most requested adult programs to the programming schedule, yoga and ESL classes. The Hatha Yoga program has been an instant success, with the class already filling to capacity.

The ESL Conversation classes are growing with a steady group of regular participants. We also received favorable responses to our adult financial and health literacy programs this month. The attendees in the “Get out of Debt in 9 Years or Less” workshop learned simple money management principles. Local certified diabetes educator, Dr. Leonie Harris, began presenting her seven week Diabetes Education Self-Management workshop. This interactive workshop allows participants to manage their health with knowledge and confidence.

Our new fall session of preschool story times began this month. We saw lots of new families; and familiar faces. Spanish story time programs continue to grow. This month we began a much requested school-age story time program, Afterschool Fun.

Families were able to attend weekend story times thanks to the Junior League of Atlanta. This month they presented their Journey to Literacy program. Children took home a copy of the book
Diary of a Worm by Doreen Cronin. Members from the North Fulton Charity League-Roswell/Alpharetta Chapter presented a Sunday story time and craft program. This story time was all about the joys of kindness. The group read Have You Filled a Bucket Today? by Carol McCloud. Afterwards, the children decorated a metal bucket and filled it with thoughts on acts of kindness.

The East Roswell Fiber Enthusiasts met on Sunday afternoons. This group is involved with knitting, crochet, and other fiber arts.

Fairburn

In September, the staff continued to brainstorm how to best display the collection in order to maximize what we have to interest the patrons. Branch staff provided introductory computer programs for adults every other Friday. A patron/volunteer conducted a Tai Chi session every Tuesday at 4pm.

Georgia Hill

Author, James Gallant visited the branch this month. Mr. Gallant donated 40 copies of his book “The Big Bust at Tyrone’s Rooming House: A Novel of Atlanta.” This book is already a part of our library system’s book collection. These donated books were used as reading incentives for those persons who checked out five items. Mr. Gallant has appeared in The Georgia Review and several other national magazines. He is also a Grant Park resident.

Tony Royal, Owner and Operator of the Chick-fil-a at Turner Hill Road donated several 96 oz. Coffee-to-Go boxes, condiments, and cups for National Coffee Day September 29th. In addition to the Chick-fil-a coffee, staff also received twelve individual packets of coffee as a donation from Royal Cup Coffee. These packets of coffee were also used as reading incentives.

Halloween books were pulled from all collections the later part of this month and placed on a cart for patrons of all ages to check out. The children inquired about Halloween books during story time. Parents are also informing us that their children are eager to check out and read books about the Halloween season now.

Mr. Tariq, of Genius Child Entertainment provided, a very energetic story-time every Tuesday. Some of the books Mr. Tariq read were: “Too Many Toys; Eat! Cried Little Pig”; “Bye-Bye, Big Bad Bullybug!”, “Panda Bear, Panda Bear, What Do You See?”; “The Fish Who Cried Wolf”; “Little Brown Bear Won’t go to School”; “If Roast Beef Could Fly”; “Speckle the Spider”; and “The Artist Who Painted a Blue Horse”. Mr. Tariq also recited an original educational rap which dealt with the subject matter of science. One child told Mr. Tariq “you’re the best story teller I’ve ever heard.”
September 16th Marjorie Coley, PR & Marketing Manager for Dr. John Lipman, provided a very enlightening Fibroid and Uterine Fibroid Embolization procedure presentation. Attendees watched two videos. One video thoroughly discussed what a uterine fibroid is, including the symptoms and treatment options. The second video discussed the Uterine Fibroid Embolization procedure and patient testimonials. Attendees enjoyed the information provided and a complimentary lunch which consisted of meat and veggie wraps, tortilla chips, fruit, desert, water, and lemonade.

Award winning writer Sandra Hughes provided a fun and energetic creative writing class. The youngest in attendance was a six year old boy. Students enjoyed participating in lively group exercises which helped with creativity, imagination, inspiration, and writing skills. Some of those in attendance were published authors, a writer for a greeting card company, and a professional song writer.

Hapeville

Since September 1st was National Book Day, Ms. Gomez, with the Fulton County Senior Center, invited library staff to visit the facility. Staff took a deposit collection of books we felt would be of interest to them. Included among the titles selected were: cookbooks; savings and investment titles; horticulture; computer titles, popular fiction, faith based and inspirational books. We told the participants about the services we offered at the library located next door to their center, signed up new users, and invited them to visit us.

Weeding the Adult collection non-fiction is an ongoing project at the branch. The shelves are starting to look better. One of our regular patrons commented that the shelves look great. After this is completed, books will be shifted.

Several kindergarten classes observed Heroes Week by visiting the library. They learned the importance of libraries and how librarians can help them.

We were invited to present a training program to a group of middle schoolers at the Hapeville Senior Center. The program was sponsored by the Fulton County Aging and Youth Department. Students and grandparents signed up for library cards at the program. Branch staff introduced eCampus to the students in attendance. Those in attendance were affiliated with the Grandparents Raising Children program.

Kirkwood

Thanks to the tireless efforts and attention to detail, branch staff members put a multitude of work into getting all of the donated items intergrated into the library’s collection. A student from Georgia Perimeter College was able to check out March: Book One by John Lewis (Y 328.73092). This book was needed for a student’s class, ‘Perspectives on Critical Issues.’
Staff members do an outstanding job with Volunteerism. Volunteer Lauren Parkerson is very passionate about helping children with homework and even assists parents with helping their children.

**Martin Luther King, Jr.**

Over one dozen seniors at the Helene S. Mills Multipurpose Senior Center registered for library cards, received program information and incentives and the Children’s Librarian was asked to participate in the Hope-Hill Elementary School’s Bring Your Parent to School day which allowed parents and children to sign up for library cards together and learn more about all their neighborhood library offers.

Staff shared some expert couponing tips and tricks with a group of eager and excited adults who came with coupons in hand!

The Fulton County Police Department’s safety tales workshop educated children about how to stay safe at school, home and in their neighborhood. In commemoration of Grandparents Day, African Drummer and Children’s Yoga Specialist Baba Bey, grandfather of six and great grandfather of three, read stories to the children and showed them yoga moves specifically geared for their small bodies. He also gave each child the opportunity to create a beat on his djembe drum which each child enjoyed.

**Mechanicsville**

As a part of President Obama’s ConnectEd Library Challenge, an initiative started to make sure that every child has his or her library card, the Mechanicsville Branch staff worked diligently to make sure every student at Benjamin E. Mays High School has a library card. This initiative was done remotely via the Library’s all new online library card application process. There were 290 library cards issued to students thus far. Staff also promoted e-Campus resources to teens and adults.

The library system in conjunction with the Romae T. Powell Juvenile Justice Center hosted a Resource Fair in honor of Grandparents Appreciation Day where grandparents parenting the second time around received invaluable information from a plethora of Fulton County Social Service agencies including information about low income housing options, utility assistance, free legal assistance, job information, healthy eating, and library resources available.

The Mechanicsville Lunch and Learn Book Talk continued with a discussion of, *Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom, facilitated by local author and library volunteer, Mr. Alvin Perry.
A Suicide Prevention Support Group began its first meeting at the Mechanicsville Branch this month and the City of Atlanta Recycling Division presented a story time on conserving the environment at Educare, formerly Sheltering Arms Daycare.

**Milton**

The Grand Opening of the Friends of Milton Library Book Barn was a huge success! After the ribbon cutting, friends and families enjoyed music, ice cream floats, became Friends and/or volunteers, bought books from the barn and borrowed various items from the library. Commissioner Liz Hausmann was presented an award from the Friends of Milton Library for all she has contributed. Georgia Representative Jan Jones was also present at the festivities. Volunteers are being rounded up to work in the Book Barn. The Friends book store within the library is currently open with regular hours.

Patrons continue to use and enjoy the self-checkout machines. Mondo boards and large screens in the study rooms are also increasing in usage. Study room usage continues to increase now that school is underway. When study rooms are full, teens make their way to the Teen Center and use the white board tables for group study.

Story time is popular. Books and poetry relating to a library and book theme were shared. Participants learned the welcome and goodbye songs as well as several other songs to be sung in future story time programs.

Girl Scout troops came in for scheduled tours and to earn their new resources badge. Discussion included how to use the library’s resources and how to find age appropriate books in the library.

The Youth Book Club had its first meeting. We read *Woof: A Birdie and Bowser Novel* by Spencer Quinn. This book was well liked by our participants! We also enjoyed fun trivia and refreshments.

The Atlanta Audubon Society presented a youth-oriented, interactive program highlighting the common birds found in the Atlanta area. Participants saw pictures of various types of birds, learned what makes birds unique, and how to tell what they eat by their beak shape and size. Participants also listened to the calls of various songbirds and learned why birds sing.

We are happy to report that the Milton History Book Club held its initial meeting. The group will meet every second Tuesday at 6:15pm. Book ideas were exchanged and it was decided to alternate every month between world history and American history.

Kim Fields from the ALZ.org group discussed the top 10 warning signs of Alzheimer’s disease. The presentation targeted the caregivers of potential ALZ patients and literature was provided.

**Northeast Spruill Oaks**

September at the Northeast Library was very exciting. The highlight program of the month was a writing class sponsored by Friends of the Northeast/Spruill Oaks Library. The presentation by
Deborah Wiles with the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators and its Southern Breeze chapter was full with participants writing down notes from her presentation. She spoke about using life experiences to tap into your writing of fiction, non-fiction and memoirs for various ages.

The Sundays for Teens program series are now held three or four times a month. This series offers teens a place to meet and enjoy gathering to discover different areas of interest.

We are very pleased to announce that a $600 Art Grant from the City of Johns Creek that was co-authored with our Friends of Northeast Spruill Oaks Library was awarded to our Teen Department to pay for two exceptional arts programs. These programs will be presented in November and December. One program is for wood art and the other is for printmaking.

Other ongoing health and wellness programs that continue to be popular are: Line Dancing; Won Yoga; and Dahn Yoga.

Additionally, we continue to be able to offer fantastic programs for no cost to us thanks to our great partners, Toastmasters International and Applerouth Tutoring Service.

**Northside**

There were 9 children’s programs this month with a total attendance of 271. Story time continues to be popular.

A system wide teen committee has been formed for the express purpose of updating teen programming and incentives for young adult readers. Another committee has begun on technology initiatives spearheaded by the youth services librarian from Peachtree.

Our children’s librarian composed a *Weebly* site that includes technology presentations for our neighborhood schools and media specialists at E. Rivers, Jackson, and Morris Brandon Elementary Schools. She sent emails with links to sites for a Helen Ruffin blog and a visual literacy introduction to the Georgia Picture Book Nominees to the media specialists of these schools. It is her intent to strengthen collaboration between our neighborhood schools and the Northside Branch through technology initiatives that extend the reach of Northside for families whose children attend those schools.

The art wall featured photographs by Atlanta photographer, Bill Boley.

Our long-awaited self-check-out machine was at last installed by 3M and Fulton County IT! Most patrons have shown a willingness to give it a try.

New brochures for the Georgia picture book nominees for 2015 and book awards for older readers in grades 4-8 were produced for our patrons. An additional updated brochure for Caldecott winners was added, listing winners over the past fifteen years.
Northwest

The Friends of the Northwest Library at Scotts Crossing was established in August and hit the ground running in September. Since one of the Friends members works with True Colors Theatre Company, she presented the idea of the theatre group partnering with the library to expose more youth to the theatre and build a relationship between plays and supporting materials in the library.

After learning about President Obama’s ConnectED Library Challenge, which vowed to make sure every child had his or her own library card, the Friends distributed the Library Card For All flyer in local apartment complexes and schools to encourage kids to apply for a library card. The Friends had their 1st annual library card sign up celebration. The Friends provided refreshments and door prizes, including tickets to several True Colors plays.

Along with traditional story times, our children enjoyed Kaiser Permanente’s Mumferd’s Safety Tales and the Children’s Museum of Atlanta’s programs.

Adults attended the workshops on “Starting a Non-Profit” and “Financing Your Home.” The non-profit workshop was the first in a series of three classes offered by the Foundation Center. Upcoming classes will include finding grants and proposal writing.

The study rooms are still a very popular feature among the patrons. There are some patrons who come most days, including the weekend, so that they have a place to study and work. The meeting rooms have been the site for numerous groups including Toastmasters meetings, Girl Scouts planning sessions and even table reads for a local play group.

Ocee

The Ocee Library continued to lead the system in circulation statistics including holds, self-checkouts, juvenile, young adult, and overall circulation.

Much of the focus at Ocee was on commencing special projects to enhance circulation by adding functional furniture, attractive signage, weeding, repurposing spaces, and moving collections for more exposure and accessibility.

Ocee celebrated Grandparents Day with a local children’s author, Ms. Katherine Jansen. She presented her newest book and read to students. A Happy Grandparent’s Day photo booth was close by so participants could have a picture taken with their favorite caregiver.

We also added new furniture (chairs) for laptop users and we will be setting up a Citizenship Corner/Kiosk in the lobby area of the library to be in conjunction with our beginner and intermediate ESL classes.

We are excited that we are now offering free math tutoring on Sundays for children and yoga and meditation classes are held on Mondays and Fridays and continue to be popular.
**Palmetto**

A Library Citizenship Corner was setup by branch staff and the Children’s Librarian attended the Milner Award Breakfast at the Central Library.

Several new children’s books arrived this month, including a number of board books for babies and staff created a corner for babies and toddler titles in the Children’s Department.

A display of books and multimedia titles on politics was created to highlight the current debates and upcoming presidential election. Other titles were also displayed during the story times, film showings and other programs to highlight the collection and encourage patrons to check out more items.

A Curriculum Night library card drive was offered at Bear Creek Middle School. We offered a photo booth for those signing up for library cards. Also, library staff held a library card drive at Renaissance Elementary School during a PTA meeting celebrating Family Literacy Night and we attended Coffee with the Principal at Bear Creek Middle School where we spoke with eleven parents and faculty members about library services and ways to partner with the parent liaisons in the parent resource room.

Two drop-in crafts were also held this month. One craft featured a back-to-school coloring contest and the other craft featured creating an original piece of art and participating in a show-and-tell event in celebration of National Grandparent’s Day. Judges selected three winners out of thirty-six entrees for the back-to-school coloring contest. The Friends of the Palmetto Library funded the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes (large coloring books and crayons).

We offered two beginner’s line dance classes and beginning sewing classes with excited participants in both.

The library celebrated National Comic Book Day with comic book crafts, a ‘superhero selfie’ photo booth and trivia contest.

**Peachtree**

The Peachtree Library participated in the PARK(ing) Day, sponsored by Midtown Alliance. The basic concept is: What if one empty on-street parking space could be made into something else, even if just for a day? Midtown Atlanta community partners rose to the challenge by temporarily transforming a handful of parking spaces into mini-parks. Peachtree Library staff transformed a parking space in front of the library into a mini-branch, complete with a reading room with books and magazines, a seating area, information on the library, and card sign-up table.

Another great partnership for Peachtree Library is with the High Museum of Art. The Museum has a “Second Sunday Funday” event with free admission to the museum for kids, and family-friendly programming. We offered five story times this month as part of this collaboration in the High Museum’s atrium.
Ceasar C. Mitchell, president of the Atlanta City Council, tweeted to all his Twitter followers about how nice he thought our Grandparents Month activity of “Write a Love Note to Grandma and Grandpa” was. This activity helps and encourages grandchildren to write a note of thanks and love to their grandparent(s) for all their love and support.

**Ponce de Leon**

In September we made coloring sheets that said “I love my library card because…,” where children were invited to draw a picture or write a sentence telling why they love the library and/or their library cards, and then branch staff posted them in the children’s area. Children that signed up for a library card this month received a prize: a Dr. Seuss pencil, a bookmark, and a sticker.

Crafty Thursdays were held and staff and the children created thaumatropes, or paper movies.

Yoga with MJ Pennington was offered weekly and our patrons really enjoy it.

The Ponce Book Club discussed *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents* by Julia Alvarez.

An “Introduction to Proposal Writing” class was offered and led by Stephen Sherman from The Foundation Center.

**Roswell**

With fall fast approaching and school starting, late afternoons, evenings and weekends became even busier as classes began.

Regular children’s programming returned this month after taking a break during the month of August. These programs returned with great excitement, along with one school visit and special programs including Signing Time, Family Story Time, the Smorgasbord Book Club and LEGO Club.

New teen programs and TAB volunteer requirements were introduced this month, leading to increased participation in Teen Programs. Our College Prep Class and Teen Writer’s Group continue to be well attended.

The highly successful Zumba program concluded this month. Participants are extremely pleased that we offer this class and with Zumba Instructor, Nicole Gordon. They look forward to the program resuming in the spring.

The Friends of the Roswell Library (FORL) approved funding for the Teen Art Contest prize amounts. FORL graciously agreed to fund our 1st prize of $200.00, 2nd prize of $150.00 and 3rd prize of $100.00. Thank you FORL!
We have a display set up for suggestions for the 2016 Roswell Reads’ book selection. The display encourages patrons to make a suggestion for the 2016 event.

Library staff created a display for National Hispanic Heritage Month and for the Citizenship Corner materials.

Sandy Springs

Sandy Springs staff offered a diverse selection of 53 programs to suit all ages and all interests in September which drew 712 attendees. Programs included story times, health seminars, defensive driving classes, ESL and Mandarin language classes, cooking classes, Yoga, Tai Chi, book clubs and more.

Our children’s librarian conducted several highly successful library card drives and school tours of the library for students. Many patrons are growing excited about the possibilities of a renovation of the Sandy Springs Library after seeing the beautiful new branches in Alpharetta and East Roswell open. After a few hiccups, the self-check machine at the Sandy Springs branch is finally up and operational!

We are excited to report that the Friends of Sandy Springs Library (FOSSL) donated funds for us to purchase new books and other materials. Our children’s librarian was invited by Ms. Christine Heller, FOSSL member and chair of the committee for Sandy Springs Reads to participate. Sandy Springs 4th annual One book, One City event promotes literacy and builds a sense of community by engaging citizens in discussions and activities around a common book. The book selection for October 2015 is *The Distance Between Us* by Reyna Grande. The companion books for younger readers are *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan, and *Dear Primo: A Letter to My Cousin* by Duncan Tonatiuh.

Our exciting lineup of programming included Core Learning Math Games!, Tie Dye T-shirts with Miss Briana, Junior League of Atlanta Saturday Story time and Kids in the Kitchen, Henna Workshop with Miss Mehtab, along with our yoga, defensive driving, ESL, Tai Chi and basic Mandarin classes, just to name a few.

Southwest

We are happy to report that contractors began installing a new roof at the Southwest Library in September. Patrons are very pleased with the progress.

Programs for adults have been successful. In September, there was a visit by author, Dr. Belinda Ross, Clinical Psychologist. She discussed her book, *Teaching to Transform*. There were 53 people in attendance, exploring ways to have a greater impact on students.

Marc Gordon led a discussion on mental health.

We also hosted the Sankofa Film Festival. The Small Business Administration held another successful workshop at the library, “QuickBooks: A Step-by-Step” session. Some of the topics
covered in the workshop were setting up company records, tracking spending, and generating reports.

One of the fundamental pillars of the library has been services to children. Staff has continued to make experiences meaningful to them and child care providers. The presenters from the Children’s Museum visited the library to share an engaging program. The organization featured music from around the world. Presenters used colorful fans, music, and other props guiding participants in the special event.

The Southwest Library was discovered by two local schools. The Pearl Academy-Math Science Institute led by Mama Virgie brought 15 students to the library. The other groups of students visiting the library were from the Watch Me Grow Daycare Center. The two groups participated in a fall story time program.

Staff visited Fickett Elementary School to conduct a library card drive. In addition, six story time programs, reaching a total of 100 children, were presented during the month.

With the help of volunteers, library shelves have looked better leading into the new month. Some have spent twelve to fourteen hours improving the organization of the shelves.

Stewart Lakewood

The Stewart-Lakewood Library continued to serve our patrons as we headed into our final weeks there before making the transition to the new Metropolitan Library. Staff and patron excitement about the new library was building by the day. Items continued to be weeded, packed, sent to surplus and discarded. Fall programs were created with the new location in mind and with our goal being able to offer more in the way of computer literacy, training on eCampus resources, job search resources and also just some fun events and activities that the new location will enable us to offer.

We also had the distinct pleasure of welcoming three new staff members to our team. Our new staff members are all on board and ready to help us open the new branch.

Members of the NPU-X met regarding the new library and the branch manager answered questions related to meeting spaces, public art and library hours. Enthusiasm for the much anticipated opening of the new library was very high!

The Stewart-Lakewood Library, the system’s oldest library branch, closed its doors to the public on September 18th. While this is a little bitter sweet for some staff and patrons, we are sure any sadness will be quickly replaced by joy when patrons visit the new library for the first time!

Our children’s librarian attended the Perkerson Elementary School PTA meeting to promote library services and answer questions about the new Metropolitan Library and the closing of Stewart-Lakewood.

A craft program was offered where bookmarks were made to celebrate National Library Card
Sign-up Month.

In addition, branch staff continued to offer after school help for elementary school students doing homework as well as basic alphabet and reading instruction.

**Thomasville Heights**

The month has been busy with school visits and preparation for Library Card Sign-up Month. School visits have taken place to encourage educators and students to visit the library, sign-up for a library card and become life-long library users. Staff attended two major events at Dobbs Elementary and Atlanta Youth Academy to introduce the importance of owning a library card; there were a total of 35 out of 50 library card applications processed in September.

Patrons are still excited about Thursday’s computer classes. The classes are continuing to grow. Each patron has the opportunity to receive personalized attention as they learn to develop resumes, search for jobs and upload completed resumes to various job sites.

**Washington Park**

Washington Park staff started September off with a library card drive in the Booker T. Washington High School’s cafeteria. Many students stopped by the library table to register for library cards. M. Agnes Jones Elementary, Brown Middle, Bethune Elementary and Gate City School of Excellence, were also visited by library staff.

Story time with CARTLanta was full of fun and excitement. Ms. Angela from City of Atlanta Public Works Department presented a story time program on recycling. She read two stories, *Charlie and Lola: We are Extremely Very Good Recyclers* by Lauren Child and *Why Should I Recycle?* by Jen Green and discussed the images in the story. The children also discussed different items that could and must be recycled and where to place them, trash or recycle container.

Adults came out and participated in an adult craft program. The attendees made coasters using a weave stencil and yarn. Each adult took their craft home and left extremely excited.

**West End**

The Children’s Librarian had a very successful school visit at KIPP Strive Primary School promoting literacy and she was able to process 82 library card applications for students who attend William Finch Elementary School.

Staff began providing homework assistance in the afternoons. The plan was to have this on Mondays then it became apparent that staff had to be available as much as possible during the week. A very successful Wednesday Crafternoon project was offered teaching Origami to children. It was so well received that the participants asked for more Origami programs in the future.
To honor grandparents and Grandparents Day, Oscar Daniel, a local professional photographer, volunteered his time to photograph grandparents with their grandchildren.

The adult patrons enjoyed a coaching workshop called “Choose You! The Next Step Toward The Life You Want Workshop” with licensed Psychologist, Dr. Rachel Mitchum Elahee (Dr. Rae). This was a strategic planning workshop designed to help participants to achieve success through goal implementation with research proven strategies, as well as through the use of the life coaching strategies.

The Powerful Black Sisters at the roundtable presented a workshop on black inventors in which the patrons enjoyed playing games and learning about black inventors. Participants were served potatoes chips and lemonade. They learned that potato chips were invented by George Crum and the lemon squeezer was invented by John Thomas White.

**Wolf Creek**

Staff hosted two District Dialogue meetings with Commissioner Marvin Arrington, Jr. and State Representative, LaDawn Jones. Both meetings were well attended.

The Busy Bee Gardening Club was formed to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening, providing to the community networking opportunities and to provide special projects in which our members can participate.

“Ready, Set Travel…Asia” was also offered, along with “Home Buying 101” for adults, genealogy classes, computer classes and the Wolf Creek Book Club met.

Staff worked with the senior’s at Walton Lakes Senior community and the Darden Senior Center to provide materials such as large print books, audio books, library cards and classes.

started a new story time that meets weekly for infants, crawlers and wobblers called “B is For Books and Babies.” We’re having great success with the new program. In honor of Children’s Manners Month, the Wolf Creek staff hosted a Fancy Nancy tea party. Presenter, Sherrie Reid spoke to the girls about manners, etiquette and being kind. Stories and activities at the program were based on the *Fancy Nancy* books by Jane O’Connor. Participants came dressed in their fanciest attire.

In September, the Children’s Librarian started a new story time that meets weekly for infants, crawlers, and wobblers called “B is for Babies Storytime.” We are having great success with the new program.

We also celebrated the birthday of H. A. Rey, creator of *Curious George*. We had our very own Celebrate Curiosity Day with Curious George story time. The participants enjoyed stories, crafts and cupcakes.
For teens, we had a great program called “Am I trending? Five Keys to Defining YOU in the Age of Instagram” and the Teen Advisory Board met.

**eCampus**

*Programming & Outreach*

The eCampus Coordinator continues to participate in the New Hire Orientation for Fulton County Government in partnership with the Personnel Office. The Fulton County Personnel Department held two New Hire Orientations on September 9th and September 23rd in which 55 new employees received library cards and reviewed professional development materials that will help them in their endeavors as new employees.

An eCampus presentation and library card sign up was held given for the Kick Off Meeting for mentee with 100 Black Men of South Fulton on September 12, 2015. The 100 Black Men organization is a community empowerment organization that focuses on Atlanta’s underprivileged youth. 50 youth received library card and participated in the presentation.

An eCampus overview was given at the Fulton County Employee Association monthly meeting on September 22, 2015. Thirty-five employees were in attendance.

*Special Projects / Other*

The eCampus Coordinator attended the Annual Adult Education Conference hosted by the Technical College System of Georgia September 28 – 30, 2015.

**Public Relations/Marketing**

The 2015 Library Design Showcase (September) issue of *American Libraries Magazine* featured the new East Roswell Library as a “At One With Nature” and the Wolf Creek Library as a “Wow Factor” example.

The Fall 2015 issue of *Library Journal*’s *Library by Design* magazine featured the Wolf Creek Library as one of “11 Additional Exemplars” and states: “Is a community complete without a library? The residents of the Wolf Creek community didn’t think so and fully embraced the opportunity to shape the plan for a library in their south Fulton County neighborhood. Residents asked for, and received, an iconic library building that is recognizable and distinctive—set apart from the “strip mall architecture” formerly associated with the area.”

The September 4 issue of the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* ran in its “Three Fun Things” section information about the Northeast/Spruill Oaks Branch program, Laughter for Wellness.

The September 6 issue of the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* ran in its “The Week’s Literary Events” section information about visiting author and former football player Robert Jones, who discussed his book *We All Have 4 Downs* at the Southwest Branch on Tuesday, September 8. In the same section of the paper in the September 20 issue, the Central Library’s author program was featured, with Violet Showers Johnson and Marilyn Halter discussing their book, *African & American: West Africans in Post-Civil Rights America.*
The announcement of the grand opening of the new Metropolitan Library was featured in the September 22 issue of the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, which also featured information on the closing of the Stewart-Lakewood Library. The event itself drew a crowd of over 300 people on October 1. In addition, the *South Fulton Neighbor* ran the article, “Fulton Library System to Open New Branch,” which mentioned all vendors on the project and the other new libraries that have already opened as part of the Library Building Program. In the October 6 issue of the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* the Metro section ran a photograph from the grand opening event and a caption declaring all that the 25,000-square-foot branch had to offer.

The Central Library’s grant-funded fall programming around “Poetic Voices of the Muslim World” has garnered a lot of publicity including four mentions in the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*’s Metro Section (see below) as well as an article in the September 19 issue of the *Atlanta Inquirer* and multiple online calendar listings.

The month-long celebration, Sandy Springs Reads, part of a city-wide collaborative effort which includes the Sandy Spring Branch and the Friends of the Sandy Springs Library, was featured in the September 30 issue of the *Northside Neighbor, Sandy Springs Neighbor and Vinings Neighbor*.

The September 30 issue of *Atlanta Intown* featured the article, “Atlanta Celebrates Photography Festival Returns in October,” which featured information about the exhibition at the Buckhead Branch.

The *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*’s Metro Section continued to feature a variety of programs and events at many of our library locations. Highlights during the month, other than those already listed above, include:
- “How Grandparents Can Help Grandkids Save for College,” East Atlanta Branch, September 3
- “Make and Take Craft: A Gift for My Granny or Gramps,” Adamsville/Collier Heights Branch, September 4
- “Computer Basics for Seniors,” Mechanicsville Branch, September 4
- “Grandparents Day: Create Your Own StoryCorps,” Wolf Creek Branch, September 4
- “Hooray for Grandparents Day,” Martin Luther King, Jr. Branch, September 4
- “Celebrate Grandparents Day,” Hapeville Branch, September 4
- “Meet and Greet Artist Geinene Carson,” East Atlanta Branch, September 9
- “Celebration of Grandparent Connection,” East Roswell Branch, September 9
- “Poetic Voices of the Muslim World: Islamic Art,” Central Library, September 16
- “Music Time with the Children’s Museum of Atlanta,” Martin Luther King Jr. Branch, September 23
- “Basic Sewing,” Palmetto Branch, September 24
- “Job Readiness Preparation Workshop,” Southwest Branch, September 24
- “Poetic Voices of the Muslim World: The Power of Moving Images,” Central Library, September 29
- “Poetic Voices of the Muslim World: Islamic Architecture,” Central Library, September 30
- “Poetic Voices of the Muslim World: Rap with Ameer,” Central Library, October 2
### SOCIAL MEDIA STATS – SEPTEMBER 2015

**FACEBOOK:**  
- Total Posts: 40  
- Post Likes: 85  
- Comments: 3  
- Post Shares: 7  
- Total Fans: 3170

**TWITTER:**  
- Total Posts: 20  
- Mentions: 48  
- Retweets: 51  
- Favorites: 51  
- Followers: 492

**BLOG:**  
- New Posts: 1  
- Post Views: 103  
- YTD posts: 18  
- YTD post views: 2249

### Volunteer Services

**General Overview:** Volunteer Services supported the branch staff, Friends groups. The Office of Volunteer Services recorded 5,080 hours performed at 33 locations, including 7 departments at Central, by a total of 510 volunteers and 72 were new volunteers to the System.

Our top three volunteers included Gerrie Fornek of the Friends of the Alpharetta Library with 102 hours, Carol Harrison of the Friends of the Roswell Library with 100 hours and John Playford with 83 hours at the East Roswell Library. Two additional volunteer roles were created including GED math tutoring with a Georgia Institute of Technology student at Central and an ESL assistant at Ocee with a Georgia State University student. 29 members of the Mount Vernon Presbyterian School third grade class honored the national day of service on September 11 by donating four hours at the Sandy Springs Library and four volunteers from the Powerful Black Women at the Round Table donated two hours to the West End Library for a program.

The Friends of the Dogwood Library finished a month long successful book sale, hosted a wellness fair collaborating with one of our new teen volunteers and received a great turnout for their town hall meeting. The Friends of the Alpharetta Library held their first outdoor book sale at the new location and the Friends of the Auburn Avenue Research Library held their first two day book sale at Central with help from a teen volunteer from Bridge Academy. The Friends of the Milton Library hosted over 100 community members, including Vice Chairman Hausmann and State Representative Jan Jones, for their Barn Grand Opening. The ceremony included the Sons of the American Revolution dedicating a copy of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence to hang on the walls of the barn that holds more than 9,000 used books for sale to benefit the library. The volunteer services manager was able to greet and thank the volunteers including Friends, students from Cambridge and Milton High Schools and the Young Men’s Service League.
The Friends of East Atlanta Library hosted an art reception with Grant Park artist, Geinene Carson and their largest book sale of the year at the East Atlanta Strut. The Friends of the Northside Library held their monthly book sale and encouraged everyone to sign up for library cards. The Friends of the East Roswell Library hosted their first book sale at the library and purchased over $6,000 in children’s books to support reading programs. The Friends of the Northwest Library held their first event, a library card sign up celebration and welcomed over 80 people, including 10 who received their new library card on site. The Friends provided refreshments and door prizes, including tickets to future True Colors performances. The Friends of the Northeast/Spruill Oaks Library sponsored refreshments for the AARP Safe Driver Course.

The Friends of the Stewart-Lakewood Library welcomed the volunteer services manager at their last official meeting to talk about the grand opening and transitioning funds to the Library Foundation for a new group. Their final newsletter highlighted all past and current volunteers, including pictures and information about the new library location and staff. The volunteer services manager met with the Metropolitan Library’s Branch Manager to confirm tour information, volunteer needs and retraining staff to work with volunteers.

At the September Friends Council meeting we had passionate members from Adams Park, Adamsville/Collier Heights, Auburn Avenue Research Library, Dogwood, East Atlanta, East Roswell, Milton, Northside, Northwest, Ocee, Ponce, Roswell, South Fulton and Stewart-Lakewood, including 4 members joining us with our new feature of a conference call. Discussions included information on how to join the Friends of Georgia Libraries (FOGL), Library Cards for All, Museum Day and fall events. Friends concerns included lack of representation for East Atlanta and Kirkwood on the Board of Trustees, general maintenance of buildings, roof leaks and Friends taking recycling home and paying for cash registers, locks and broken toilets. One Friends group encouraged all groups to read the Aspen Institute’s report on reinventing libraries and Friends requested a presentation on the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library Foundation at the December meeting. The Friends of the Roswell Library’s President, Cora Cramer, delivered surplus donated books to the Auburn Avenue Research Library, Central, Dogwood, Palmetto and South Fulton all in one afternoon for the Friends groups to sell at future sales.

Staff completed a volunteer application audit, announced the findings of 200 missing applications at Agency Meeting and submitted a list of volunteers to all branch managers and volunteer liaisons. Clarifications were provided regarding all volunteers needing to complete applications whether they serve once, weekly or with the Friends groups. Volunteer procedures were shared with the new volunteer liaison at the College Park Library. The volunteer services manager presented volunteer information to hundreds of Georgia State University students at their fall semester Volunteer Fair. Other recruitment efforts included reaching out to counselors at Banneker High School and Woodward Academy, and additional postings with Spelman College and Volunteer Match. The Fulton County Career Expo information was shared with all AARP volunteers and all site coordinators were asked to watch a new safety video to ensure AARP volunteers are following procedures. Recognition efforts included rewarding volunteers, Delcenia Mitchell and Emmett Brantley and volunteer liaisons, Lisa Randolph and Andaiye Reeves with tickets to the Zombie Night at the Atlanta Braves game.
Books for Babies program materials were distributed to 85 families this month. The volunteer services manager presented Books for Babies packets and information to the Library Foundation at their meeting held at the Milton Library. Staff also presented a Books for Babies program and assisted with outreach at the Atlanta Public Safety Day in the Park. The volunteer services manager connected The Foundation Center’s Senior Librarian, Stephen Sherman, with the Council of Volunteer Administrators of Atlanta for their monthly member meeting and participated in a workshop on legal issues with volunteers.

Volunteer services staff screened and placed 39 teenagers, 57 adults, 18 court-required volunteers, 2 National Charity League volunteers and 2 groups in September. Staff also completed 27 volunteer letters to verify service hours and assisted 11 community members with finding alternative community service locations.
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<td>5,832</td>
<td>54,980</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>54,980</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PROFESSIONAL SERV</td>
<td>41,800</td>
<td>1,399</td>
<td>9,940</td>
<td>24,780</td>
<td>34,719</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COPIER MACHINE LEASE</td>
<td>229,320</td>
<td>12,625</td>
<td>111,928</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>111,928</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COPIER PAPER</td>
<td>101,126</td>
<td>12,703</td>
<td>16,022</td>
<td>5,347</td>
<td>21,369</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SUPPLIES</td>
<td>195,435</td>
<td>35,006</td>
<td>61,992</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>61,992</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BUILDING RENT</td>
<td>396,789</td>
<td>31,324</td>
<td>289,230</td>
<td>107,308</td>
<td>396,538</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OTHER SERVICES</td>
<td>68,451</td>
<td>3,445</td>
<td>42,202</td>
<td>16,075</td>
<td>58,277</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SECURITY SERVICES</td>
<td>344,068</td>
<td>33,570</td>
<td>139,684</td>
<td>153,572</td>
<td>293,256</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TRANSFER OUT CAPITAL PROJ</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TRAINING</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GENERAL INSURANCE</td>
<td>575,035</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>287,518</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>287,518</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>25,036,903</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,568,571</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,756,362</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,002,549</strong></td>
<td><strong>14,758,911</strong></td>
<td><strong>59%</strong></td>
</tr>
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## DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY ARTS AND CULTURE
### MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - BY ORG. TYPE
#### AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>SERVICE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TYPE</strong></td>
<td><strong>DESCRIPTION</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>SUPPORT SERVICES</td>
<td>REG SALARY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BENEFITS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OFFICE EQUIP. REPAIR</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EQUIPMENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OFFICE FURNITURE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PROFESSIONAL SERV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COPIER MACHINE LEASE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COPIER PAPER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SUPPLIES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LYRASIS CHARGES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OTHER SERVICES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TRAVEL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TRAINING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VEHICLE MAINTENANCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GENERAL INSURANCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity and Description</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Use</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Collection Size</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Items the library owns</td>
<td>2,475,887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Cardholders</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library accounts registered in our system</td>
<td>528,683</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New Cardholders</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First time registration of a patron</td>
<td>6,339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Renewing Cardholders</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Current patrons renewing a card</td>
<td>10,483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Circulation</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of items checked out of the library</td>
<td>272,696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Holds</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of requests by patrons for staff to locate and make available materials throughout the system</td>
<td>47,665</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inter-Library Loans</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of items lent to or borrowed from another library system</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Visits</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people entering a library for any reason</td>
<td>275,716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GED Testing &amp; Training</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of programs offered (counseling, training, testing)</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of unduplicated participants served</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of tests administered</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of graduates</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>English as a Second Language Classes</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of programs</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people attending programs</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Values marked with an asterisk (*) indicate data that is not available or not applicable.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity and Description</th>
<th>2015 September</th>
<th>YTD</th>
<th>2014 September</th>
<th>YTD</th>
<th>% Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Auburn Avenue Research Library</td>
<td>489</td>
<td>3,652</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13,683</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of research items requested by patrons</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>449</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>759</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of finding aids accessed (on site as well as online sources)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrons served</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>3,319</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>13,660</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Collections (Genealogy, APRgaret Mitchell, GLBT) Requests for materials</td>
<td>2,147</td>
<td>25,836</td>
<td>2,231</td>
<td>18,238</td>
<td>-4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnership Programs Items circulated from programs created by partnering with other organizations (Zoo Pass: pass for up to 4 people; Parks Pass: free parking at parks or entrance to historic sites; Kill-A-Watt Meter: measures electricity use in the home)</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>3,138</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>2,747</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer/Internet Usage Number of computer sessions (Internet access and office software)</td>
<td>75,841</td>
<td>607,521</td>
<td>68,568</td>
<td>572,007</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of hours of computer use</td>
<td>42,407</td>
<td>366,726</td>
<td>40,833</td>
<td>333,498</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wireless Sessions Number of times the library's wireless network is accessed</td>
<td>29,059</td>
<td>377,652</td>
<td>63,083</td>
<td>575,158</td>
<td>-54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webhits Number of times people have visited the library’s website</td>
<td>690,623</td>
<td>6,224,771</td>
<td>666,934</td>
<td>6,053,952</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Resources Number of times a resource is logged into or a searched performed other than library catalog</td>
<td>54,430</td>
<td>576,624</td>
<td>58,898</td>
<td>821,032</td>
<td>-8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Classes Number of classes</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>-67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of attendees</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>1,195</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>1,977</td>
<td>-60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virtual Circulation Number of e-books and e-audiobooks checked out</td>
<td>11,766</td>
<td>109,361</td>
<td>11,618</td>
<td>103,205</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virtual Reference Desk Information requests via telephone, online chat and email</td>
<td>1,738</td>
<td>18,816</td>
<td>2,791</td>
<td>19,537</td>
<td>-38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity and Description</td>
<td>2015 September</td>
<td>2015 YTD</td>
<td>2014 September</td>
<td>2014 YTD</td>
<td>% Difference Monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books for Babies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of mothers who were made aware of the program, given a free book and applied for a card</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>446</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s programs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library sponsored programs offered for children (birth - 12)</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>2,271</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>2,085</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people attending programs</td>
<td>10,136</td>
<td>82,584</td>
<td>9,711</td>
<td>87,989</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Programs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library sponsored programs offered for teens (13 - 17)</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>-8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people attending programs</td>
<td>2,858</td>
<td>9,978</td>
<td>2,781</td>
<td>15,190</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Programs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library sponsored programs offered for adults (18 +)</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>2,387</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>2,291</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people attending programs</td>
<td>3,475</td>
<td>36,266</td>
<td>3,718</td>
<td>33,026</td>
<td>-7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs - Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library sponsored programs offered - total of all programs</td>
<td>684</td>
<td>5,093</td>
<td>607</td>
<td>5,166</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people attending programs</td>
<td>16,469</td>
<td>128,828</td>
<td>16,210</td>
<td>136,205</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Rooms</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-library sponsored meetings or activities scheduled</td>
<td>454</td>
<td>3,164</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>2,495</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people attending meetings or activities</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>44,505</td>
<td>4,679</td>
<td>54,142</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer hours contributed to the library system</td>
<td>5,080</td>
<td>53,253</td>
<td>4,843</td>
<td>47,911</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of volunteers contributing time</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voter Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>The number of people registering to vote at the library</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>1,880</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>2,082</td>
<td>-13%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bookmobile</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of patrons served</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*No cumulative total is shown as many of the same people participate from month to month.
## ATLANTA-FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
### PROGRAM REPORT
#### SEPTEMBER 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGENCY NAME</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PROGRAMS</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PROGRAMS</th>
<th>INCREASE/DECREASE</th>
<th>PERCENT</th>
<th>ATTENDANCE</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PROGRAMS</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PROGRAMS</th>
<th>INCREASE/DECREASE</th>
<th>PERCENT</th>
<th>ATTENDANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADAMS PARK</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>838</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>711</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADAMSVILLE/COLLIER HEIGHTS</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>-44%</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>(103)</td>
<td>-66%</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALPHARETTA</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>164%</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUCKHEAD</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>-17%</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>(285)</td>
<td>-71%</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARVER HOMES</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>-44%</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>528</td>
<td>(199)</td>
<td>-38%</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>4,402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLEVELAND AVENUE</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>167%</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>(27)</td>
<td>-15%</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>2,043</td>
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<td>COLLEGE PARK</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>-4%</td>
<td>589</td>
<td>514</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>2,770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOGWOOD</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>-31%</td>
<td>798</td>
<td>2,668</td>
<td>(1,870)</td>
<td>-70%</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>3,888</td>
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<td>EAST ATLANTA</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>2,159</td>
<td>1,415</td>
<td>744</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>10,823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAST POINT</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>200%</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>1,961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAST ROSWELL</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>4,770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAIRBURN</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>1,444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEORGIA HILL</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>-33%</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>(80)</td>
<td>-35%</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>1,374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAPEVILLE</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>1,836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIRKWOOD</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>-10%</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>(70)</td>
<td>-41%</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>1,233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1600%</td>
<td>564</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>840%</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>2,303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MECHANICSVILLE</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>2,016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MILTON</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>125,803</td>
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**ATLANTA-FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM**

**CIRCULATION REPORT**

**SEPTEMBER 2015**

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<th>JUVENILE</th>
<th>Y/A</th>
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<th>SEPT 2014 DATA</th>
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<th>PERCENT CHANGE</th>
<th>YTD 2015 CIRC</th>
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***Perry and Bankhead/Bowen count reported in the 2014 YTD***
### ATLANTA-FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
### CIRCULATION
### SEPTEMBER
### 2015 - 2014

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### ATLANTA-FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
### CIRCULATION
### SEPTEMBER
### 2015 - 2014

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<td>Peachtree</td>
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<td>29,048</td>
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ATLANTA-FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
SYSTEM STATS AT A GLANCE
SEPTEMBER 2015

<table>
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<th>AGENCY NAME</th>
<th>SEPTEMBER TOTAL</th>
<th>SEPTEMBER INTRA-LIBRARY</th>
<th>SEPTEMBER COMPUTER USAGE</th>
<th>SEPTEMBER LIBRARY VISITS</th>
<th>SEPTEMBER NUMBER OF PROGRAMS</th>
<th>SEPTEMBER ATTENDANCE PROGRAMS</th>
<th>SEPTEMBER NUMBER OF MEETINGS</th>
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<th>SEPTEMBER VOTER REGISTRATIONS</th>
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ATLANTA-FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
Customer Service Comments
September 2015

- Total Customer Comments Received:
  - September 2015: 122
  - August 2015: 113
  - Year to Date: 1,266

- Types of Comments:
  - Compliment: 57
  - Suggestion: 15
  - Complaint: 71
  - Inquiry: 36
  - August 2015: 51, 7, 62, 22
  - Year to Date: 460, 68, 537, 317

- Ranking for Types of Comments:
  - Most frequent compliments received:
    - New libraries
    - Customer service
  - Most frequent suggestions received:
    - Improve Wi-Fi
  - Most frequent complaints received:
    - Printing, Wi-Fi and Facility/HVAC, grounds, cleanliness
  - Most frequent inquiries received:
    - Inquiries/Patron assistance (login) /PIN Resets, Wi-Fi Issues

- Format of Comments:
  - Emails: 45
  - Postcards: 58
  - Direct Contact: 19
• **57 compliments** were received during September. Almost all compliments received were related to our new bond libraries opened since 2014.

• A sampling of complimentary quotes received include:
  1. Milton: “The Milton Library is a beautiful building. They are always eager to help. It is easy to find what you are looking for.”
  2. Central: “Outstanding service. Kind, courteous, polite, very helpful, great attitude!”
  4. Ocee: “I needed a specific children’s book and was afraid it would disappear before I got here. I spoke with staff and they pulled it and put it on hold for me at the desk. Exceptional service!”
  5. Kirkwood: “Staff helped me and showed good customer service.”
  6. Sandy Springs: “Staff take their time to help me. I come to this library because of their friendliness.”
  7. Northwest: “The new library is very modern and open. I love it!”

• Managers receive a monthly compilation of the feedback received from patrons visiting their libraries as well as specific card/email/phone calls. Managers use this input to acknowledge employee’s success in a peer setting as evidence of the public’s appreciation for library services in their community or for instructional and coaching sessions as needed.

• **71 disappointments and suggestions for improvement** were received during September indicating patrons felt the service they received that time was worse than what they had experienced in the recent past. The greatest source of disappointment from patrons throughout our system was related to grounds maintenance, IT and building maintenance issues.

• A sampling of quotes received appears below:
  2. East Atlanta: “East Atlanta is too small to allow phone calls inside the building. They need study rooms for private conversations.”
  3. Alpharetta: “Insanely loud! Poor design! Noise travels up from the children’s area. Drive through book return and interior setup is awful! Beautiful exterior, but cold interior.”
  4. East Point: “Teens are too loud and very rude to staff and visitors.”
  5. East Roswell: “Wi-Fi is unusable on my computer, phone or table due to security issues.”
  6. Southwest: “Why is the Wi-Fi so complicated and inaccessible? No other library I have ever visited has Wi-Fi that is so difficult to access.”
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Trustees, Fulton County Library System

FROM: Gayle H. Holloman, Interim Director

DATE: October 21, 2015

SUBJECT: Library Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule - 2016

Please note the following Library Board of Trustees Meeting dates for 2016. This is an action item on your October 28, 2015 agenda.

January 27, 2016
February 24, 2016
March 23, 2016
April 27, 2016
May 25, 2016
June 22, 2016
August 24, 2016
September 28, 2016
October 26, 2016
November 16, 2016**
December 21, 2016**

Board of Trustees meetings are held the 4th Wednesday of each month.

**November and December meetings will be held 3rd Wednesday due to Fulton County holidays.

Thank you.

GHH/zrc

Approved by Board of Trustees
October 28, 2015
## 2016 HOLIDAY/CLOSING CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>DAY OF THE WEEK</th>
<th>HOLIDAY</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>New Year’s Day</td>
<td>Holiday – Library Closed</td>
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<td>January 18, 2016</td>
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<td>Martin Luther King, Jr.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 23, 2016</td>
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<td>Christmas Holiday</td>
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